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"SAYONARA"

By SAPAJOU

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Lending a Hand

Japanese shells devastated many homes in the Kiangwan-Tazang district but Japanese money will indirectly assist in their rehabilitation. With the sudden order for withdrawal, which it appears will be complete, a process of disarmament is proceeding in which thousands of people are engaged. The countryside last week was alive with Japanese sappers and engineers demolishing defences, filling in trenches and tearing up wooden supports, props and duckboards. Companies of men went into action armed with giant wire cutters clipping the miles of barbed wire stringing the district. But, strange to say, working side by side with the Japanese soldiers were large labour forces recruited from among the Chinese country-people. It was a curious scene, the khaki-clad "conquerors" working with the blue-clad "conquered" in the process of demilitarisation. While soldiers with shovels and wire cutters attacked the defence systems, Chinese coolies assisted in tearing up planks and beams and wrecking intricate dug-outs in mounds and hillocks. Lorryloads of salvaged material were sent back to the bases. There was abundant good nature on both sides and even the Chinese country women gave a hand in removing the traces of war smiling perhaps at both the pay prospects ahead and the fact that after all they had won. But poor, flattened Kiangwan looks as if unusual industry and prosperity will be necessary in that district before it rises from the ashes.

Shakespeare

An interesting suggestion was made the other evening apropos of the Shakespearean anniversary that Shanghai might do something in the autumn towards its observance. It seems somewhat late in the day, but there is merit in the suggestion that the various amateur dramatic bodies here should combine

to stage their own Shakespearean festival, by presenting one of the famous poet's plays. The idea is passed on with some trepidation in view of the manner in which Shanghai refused to believe some years ago that local amateurs could play Shakespeare, and the long time—seven performances, if memory serves—it took to convince it that they could. But that was a long time ago, Shanghai has grown considerably since, and with its growth has come a very large source of available talent well able to handle the difficulties which Shakespeare presents. That it should appeal to Shanghai there seems very little reason to doubt, for there is not a nationality present in Shanghai which is not interested in the works of the great Bard. Their universal appeal was evidenced by the representatives of seventy different nations who officially attended the opening of the new Memorial Theatre, and so far as Shanghai is concerned Shakespeare does present a good show, it can be beautifully dressed and, without a doubt, there is sufficient talent present to act it well.

The Mighty Fallen

There is a tinge of tragedy—of mighty times which have passed in to the shade—in the telegram that the Chinese court robes, including the precious peacock's feather, formerly belonging to General Gordon, hero of the "Ever Victorious Army," have been sold at a London auction for £50. Age may have dimmed the brilliance of the plumage and the beauty of the dragon embroidery, but the history behind them suggests a better fate. Two great men were involved in those hours, the highest ever conferred by the Manchu emperors. One was a proud, stubborn, high-minded British soldier. The other was equally proud and stubborn but more subtly appreciative of his own countrymen's mentality. As commander of the "Ever Victorious

Army" which contributed so much to break the power of the Taiping rebels around Soochow, General Gordon (then Colonel) never really forgave Li Hung-chang for the act of betrayal when Li executed the Taiping princes to whom Gordon had promised their lives if they surrendered at Soochow. No amount of official memorialising served to placate the wrath of Gordon, who as one time was credited with the intention of going out and shooting Li. The successful termination of the campaign against the Taipings served to mollify Gordon and the decorations, which have gone under the auctioneer's hammer, were conferred on Gordon following a notice in the *Peking Gazette* which stated:

There was no vacillation about Gordon's services; he was ever inspired with that bravery and strategic talent which enabled him to prove so formidable. He was also intimately acquainted with the relations existing between China and other Powers. It is therefore most necessary for us to mark our approval. Gordon is, therefore, presented with the Yellow Jacket, and a short peacock's feather. He is also presented with the official robes and paraphernalia belonging to the rank of Commander-in-Chief. Thus will our favour be manifested to him.

"In the Dark"

"Sport or Business," in to-day's correspondence columns of this journal, adds his arguments to yesterday's leading article on the subject of pony racing. Such support is welcome, because, as a general rule in Shanghai, even though many people are in entire agreement with some particular suggestion and insist that "something should be done," they are chary as of lending their corroborative weight. If the correspondent, when he refers to "Race Club Stewards," thinks the argument was directly aimed at the Race Club, he is entirely wrong; it was aimed at all three, but at the senior racing club less than any, because they have offended the least often and gossip at the Race Course indicated that they have every intention of bringing about a reform. For the rest, it is somewhat difficult to agree with "Sport or Business." These are times of emergency, and the

Race Club have done a very decent thing in granting the limited use of their course to their comrades in distress—the I.R.C. Shanghai has not had too much racing this spring, but only just about enough (counting the number of days and forgetting for the moment the number of races on each day and the trifling quality of so many of the ponies raced). If the usual six-months programme all told could be reduced to what is being given this spring, there would not be much about which to grumble. Neither is it quite fair to say that the Shanghai Race Club are interested financially in the I.R.C. They have a controlling financial interest, but the profit to them has been small and they only obtained that interest in order that they might exercise a certain amount of administrative control, so far as might be possible, for the general good of racing. It can justly be claimed that they have not altogether failed.

Union Jack Club

After eight years' successful work the Union Jack Club is now in the course of building an extension to its premises. Special attention to this point is pertinent at the moment, for the Annual Meeting of the Navy League, Shanghai Branch, which is responsible for the Union Jack Club is to be held to-day at the Club itself. This is the first time that the meeting has been so held and it is understood that the idea is to give people an opportunity of inspecting the Club after the meeting. The Union Jack Club is not perhaps so well known to Shanghai as its merits deserve, because, quite rightly, the Committee do not encourage the casual visits of strangers, but it cannot be said that Shanghai does not realise the wonderful work which this institution does. It receives the most enthusiastic support from the Race Club, and it has a very strong Committee, which is very naturally taking the view that more direct interest might be taken by the general public and the Navy League members in one of the most successful institutions run in Shanghai.

"Osaviochim"

The reports of tension along the Manchurian-Soviet frontier have been conflicting. Yet there can be no doubt that the Soviet press has been preparing its readers for something more serious than a war of words in defence of its rights in the new state of Manchukuo. Propaganda calculated to inflame the peasant in Soviet Russia is no new thing. Formerly it was directed against the capitalist states as a whole, who were depicted as spending most of their spare time in envy of the lot of the Soviet worker and in devising means to bring this "model" nation to the dust. Recent telegrams have mentioned briefly several organisations for war which have been built up among Soviet citizens, and not the least of them has been the "Osaviochim," or the organisation to support air and chemical warfare. The membership of this organisation is spread throughout the length and breadth of the U.S.S.R. and has been steadily increasing. According to figures available, it was 2,550,000 in 1927, increasing to 5,100,000 in 1929, and to about 7,000,000 last year. One of the reasons for its rapid growth is that certain privileges are allowed its members, such as preferential treatment in finding and keeping employment. According to its rules, members of the organisation must be prepared to be "called up" at the first sign of war, and with this end in view their equipment, which is formidable, is kept in the most efficient condition, and members are required to be proficient in military exercises and with the rifle.

Mr. Inukai's Grand-Daughter

In their horror at the ghastly crime which has robbed Japan of her Prime Minister, residents of Shanghai will desire to express their special sympathy with Mrs. S. Iguchi, the wife of the Japanese Consul here. Mrs. Iguchi is a grand-daughter of the late Mr. Tsuyoshi Inukai, and to her and her husband, therefore, the news has come as a terrible personal shock as well as a national sorrow. They can be assured that they have the sincere sympathy and condolence of all communities in their sad bereavement.

CHINESE POLITICS

WITHDRAWAL OF JAPANESE

Desire to Conform to World Opinion: Chinese
Take Over Chapei

REPORTED CLASH AT SHANHAIKUAN.

A MOST remarkable development in the Sino-Japanese issue during the week was the decision of the Japanese Government for the complete withdrawal of their forces from Shanghai, leaving only a portion of the naval men for any future emergencies when the lives and property of the Japanese nationals may be jeopardised. This move has created a very favourable impression among all sections of the community.

Tokyo is emphasising on the necessity for the early calling of the proposed round-table conference for the settlement of the outstanding points of dispute between the two countries. In this connection, a suggestion has been put forward by the Japanese Foreign Office for the convening of a preliminary conference at Tokyo. It is reported, though official confirmation is lacking, that among the proposals to be discussed at the proposed conference in Tokyo is one for the conversion of Shanghai into an international free city within a demilitarised zone.

The political tension that prevails in Japan and in the Far East generally receives pointed emphasis from the fatal attack on the Japanese Premier, Mr. Tsuyoshi Inukai, by some of the Japanese naval men and military cadets. A complete report of this unhappy affair appears under "Outport News" in this issue of the "North-China Herald." Although the motive for the murder of the veteran leader and the attempted assassination of several others remains somewhat clouded, the action is taken to mean the last desperate attempt of the military clique against the forces of democracy and liberalism in Japan. This Fascist-like movement in Japan does not appear to find support from the country generally where the latest violent action has been widely denounced. In China, this latest move in Japan is taken to indicate a possible stiffening of Japanese policy towards both Shanghai and Manchuria.

Wednesday, May 11

ALLEGED SECRET ANNEX

Public Bodies Denounce Peace Agreement: Japanese
Continue Withdrawal

In view of the agitation of the public bodies against the Sino-Japanese peace agreement, a responsible officer of the Shanghai Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday denied allegations of "secret articles and understandings" said to have been embodied in the agreement or recorded in the minutes of the negotiations.

It was emphasised by the officer that no political problems such as the anti-Japanese boycott etc. had been discussed at the peace conference, and that there was no Annex A said to have been withheld from publication.

While the English version of the peace agreement has been officially released, negotiations are still being continued by the Chinese and Japanese delegates to iron out difference in the Chinese and Japanese translations of the version. It is officially announced that with the completion and signing of the translations, which are expected to-day or tomorrow, the full text will be published in local Chinese and Japanese papers.

Withdrawal Continued

As the English version of the pact is the deciding factor in case of a dispute, the delay in the signing of the translations in no way holds up the programmes of the Japanese withdrawal and the taking over the evacuated districts by the Chinese authorities.

Yesterday morning, military attaches of the four friendly Powers inspected the districts to the south of the Soochow Creek. Japanese troops, who are continuing their withdrawal, evacuated Lotien yesterday afternoon. Headed by Mr. Sun Shi-wen, magistrate of Pao-shan-hsien, a contingent of Chinese policemen entered the district late yesterday.

The 500 special Chinese policemen who arrived in Nanking from Peking yesterday are not to come to Shanghai, it was reported. They are to leave Nanking for Quinsan and other neighbouring districts, while a second batch from Peking is to take over the Chapei district.

Agreement Repudiated

The Federation of the Shanghai Public Bodies issued a statement to the general public and also inserted an advertisement in the Chinese papers yesterday, repudiating the Sino-Japanese peace agreement. Suspicious of the contents of the agreement, the local Chinese Chamber of Commerce has wired the Nanking Government to publish the full text of the agreement and to state

clearly whether or not there are secret appendices.

The statement of the public bodies in short says:

"Since September 18, 1931, the Chinese people throughout the country have sacrificed their lives, their trade and their savings in order to deal with Japanese aggression and to save the nation. Acting on instructions, Mr. Quo Tai-chi, however, signed on May 5 the so-called peace agreement. It will be remembered that besides the various articles, the agreement contains several appendices with the minutes attached. Denial on the part of Mr. Quo Tai-chi on the contrary, this agreement violates the Chinese sovereign rights, and effects the Chinese people's freedom of speech in regard to the anti-Japanese and national salvation plans.

"We have dispatched three circular telegrams repudiating the agreement and we now declare that we have sworn never to recognise the Sino-Japanese Peace Agreement. All brethren here and abroad and all anti-Japanese and national salvation public bodies must reject the agreement without hesitation."

Nanjiang Withdrawal

The Japanese Members on the Joint Commission announced yesterday:

"In one of the foreign newspapers of to-day, it is reported that the Japanese troops did not withdraw from Nanjiang yesterday. In this connection, a Japanese member of the Joint Commission stated, in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding, that according to the explanation of the Chinese representative to-day at Lotien, the Chinese police arrived yesterday at Nanjiang and at Kiating about 2.30 p.m. and recognised that no Japanese troops were remaining at those points."

Japanese Return to Canton

Canton, May 10.

On the expectation that the city proper of Canton would be peaceful now that the Sino-Japanese Armistice Agreement had been signed in Shanghai, Japanese residents who had fled to Shameen commenced to return to their old dwellings in the city proper. The Pao Ai Hospital, operated and maintained by the Taiwan Government-General, whose staff had likewise fled to Shameen, has also resumed its work in the old quarters in the native city.—Union Press.

SHANHAIKUAN

SITUATION

Japanese Demand to Put Down
Volunteers

Peking, May 10.

The already serious situation at Shanhaikuan was further aggravated yesterday when the Japanese military presented a demand to General Ho Chu-kuo, Commander of the 9th North-eastern Brigade and concurrently Garrison Commander of Shanhaikuan, for the right of suppressing and arresting Chinese volunteers within an area 80 li (27 miles) west of the Great Wall.

It is learnt that General Ho has refused to comply, pointing out that the territory demanded by the Japanese military is part of his garrison post; the Japanese military must first secure the consent of the Chinese authorities before "suppressing the bandits." Should the Japanese proceed with their plans, they will be held responsible for the lives and properties of the Chinese inhabitants.

The Japanese have not yet replied to the Chinese stand. Meanwhile, curfew hours from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. are being enforced at Shanhaikuan by the Chinese authorities. The Japanese military units there have mounted their guns and directed them towards the walled city, while live electric wires have been placed around the Japanese barracks.

It is stated that more than 100 policemen of the puppet Manchukuo Government have occupied the Shanhaikuan railway station. When General Ho sent a deputy to ask them to withdraw so as to avoid a clash, they replied that as they are units of the national defence police, they will not leave the station.—Kuo Min.

Japanese Accusations

Peking, May 10.

Vernacular newspapers state to-day that "a certain high official" will leave for Nanking within the next few days by air. It is suggested in some circles that he intends to discuss the Shanhaikuan situation with the Central Government. Japanese military officials are continually accusing the Chinese authorities in Shanhaikuan of allowing large numbers of volunteers and quantities of munitions to enter Manchuria. It is reported that the Japanese are threatening to take drastic action against the manoeuvres.—Reuter.

Soviet Arms for Gen. Ma?

Harbin, May 9.

Reports alleging that Ma Chan-shan has several large tanks of Soviet manufacture and that he is employing many Soviet instructors were received here to-day.

It is also reported that Soviet pilots have been engaged for the air arm of his army, which is now said to be massing near Noho. General Ma, who recently "double-crossed" the new administration of Manchuria, is now opposed to the Japanese and Manchukuo forces.

According to dispatches received here late this evening, 6,000 "irregulars" are raiding the district between Andachan and Tien-tsoakung, looting and terrorising the inhabitants.

Three Chinese fired their revolvers at a low-flying Japanese aeroplane yesterday, but none of their shots took effect. They did this from a house in Kavkassky Street, in the Pristan district, after which they fled and escaped capture.—Reuter.

Japanese Troops Sent to Manchuria

Tokyo, May 10.

In announcing the arrival of the main body of the 14th Division in Dairen from Shanghai, the War Office explains that the transfer of reinforcements to Manchuria is necessitated by the inadequacy of the Manchukuo police and military to cope with the increasing activities of bandits and insurgents.

These bands of insurgents, the War Office continues, are, with the growth of the spring foliage able to conceal their movements and carry out their depredations over a greatly extended area.

The arrival of the 14th Division now provides a total of six Divisions of Japanese troops in Korea and Manchuria.—Reuter.

HAVING been closed since the outbreak of hostilities on January 28, the Commercial Press stores will re-open on June 1, according to an announcement just issued.

Mr. Ma Kuei (Ma Tszyuan), son of General Ma Chan-shan, the hero of Nonni Bridge, and a son of General Wan Fu-lin, Chairman of the Kirin Provincial Government, returned to Shanghai from Germany a couple of days ago and left at once for the north by steamer.

Thursday, May 12

ALL JAPANESE WITHDRAWING

Government's Decision as to Shanghai:
Spokesman Bitter

Tokyo, May 11.

It was announced to-day that the Japanese Government has decided to withdraw all the Japanese troops from Shanghai within a month.

A spokesman of the Foreign Office disclosed to-day that this decision was reached at a meeting of the Cabinet yesterday.

"The decision is due to the Japanese Government's desire to conform to world opinion and to prove that Japan had no territorial or other ulterior motives in dispatching troops to Shanghai," he declared.

He said that although it was previously intended to maintain a semi-permanent garrison of at least one Division, this latest decision

guards from Chapei, commencing on May 16, with the area south of the railway. Beginning on May 14, Chinese authorities will be enabled to inspect the latter area. To that end, it is expected that the Chinese delegates will make concrete arrangements with the Japanese delegates and the headquarters of the Japanese landing party."

Satisfaction in Nanking

Nanking, May 11.

General satisfaction was expressed here with the decision of the Japanese Government to withdraw the troops at Shanghai within a month, thereby fulfilling the terms of the armistice agreement.

Meanwhile, official circles here are closely watching the situation in Manchuria and North China.

Committee to Take Over Area

Nanking, May 10.

The Executive Yuan, at a meeting to-day, appointed the following to be members of the committee to take over the territory evacuated by the Japanese troops: Messrs. Ying Ju-keng, Wen Ying-sing, Kuo Teh-hua, Hang Teh-ching, and Chu Hsi-puh.—Reuter.

Repudiation of Peace Pact

Agitation is continuing among the Chinese public bodies against the Sino-Japanese armistice agreement which was signed last week by the delegates of both China and Japan and also the four friendly Powers.

The various branches of the Shanghai Special District Citizens Federation held a joint meeting on Tuesday afternoon at which it was resolved to issue a circular repudiating the armistice agreement on the ground that it is derogatory to China's prestige and impairs her sovereignty.

A letter has been addressed to Mr. Quo Tai-chi, the chief Chinese delegate to the recent armistice conference, by the Shanghai Federation of National Salvation Associations, declaring they will not recognise the recently-signed armistice agreement. The following is a translation of the letter to Mr. Quo: "We heard that you had rejected the Japanese demand that no Chinese troops be stationed in Pootung and Nantao and that you had declared that you would never sign any treaty derogatory to China's prestige, we had every confidence in you and trusted that you would keep your words."

"However, after reading the 'full text' of the Sino-Japanese armistice agreement, we notice that you have signed an agreement permitting Japanese troops to be stationed permanently in the International Settlement and on extra-Settlement roads. We further observe that Japanese troops will first withdraw into certain designated areas and then to the Settlement and that no time limit has been fixed for their withdrawal from these designated areas. On the other hand, the Chinese troops are to be temporarily stationed at their present positions. Furthermore, the police and the administrative officials of the evacuated districts will not be allowed to resume their duties, because these districts are to be taken over by a special constabulary force with foreign experts serving as officers and instructors. And lastly, no Chinese troops are to be stationed at Pootung and Nantao.

"It would seem as if the evacuated areas are to be included in a demilitarised zone and a free city which would be established by and by. In view of the foregoing, the armistice agreement impairs the sovereignty and administrative rights of China and consequently we have issued circulars and published declarations in the newspapers, repudiating the recently-signed agreement between China and Japan."

Rehabilitation of Chapei

With the continued withdrawal of the Japanese troops and the taking over of the evacuated areas by the special Chinese police from Peking, detailed rehabilitation plans, including the resumption of train services between Shanghai and Nanking, Woosung, and Hangchow have been completed by the railway authorities and the City Government of Greater Shanghai. Reconstruction work also is to start at the Hungjiao Aerodrome (which was damaged by bombs during the Sino-Japanese hostilities) with a view to an early resumption of air mail and passenger services.

Rehabilitation Measures

In connection with the rehabilitation measures for the Chapei area

NO SECRET CONDITIONS

Nanking, May 10.

In a message to the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Wang Ching-wei emphatically denies that there are any secret conditions in connection with the Shanghai armistice agreement.—Reuter.

entails the return of conditions prior to the January outbreak, so far as Japan's strength in Shanghai is concerned.

Only a small force of Blue Jacks will remain to protect the Japanese residents in Shanghai. All other troops are returning to Japan.

While Japan is hopeful that the Chinese will strictly observe the terms of the Armistice and will not permit the Chinese troops to enter the 20-kilometre zone, the spokesman said that Japan would hold the account as well as world opinion accountable if the withdrawal of Japanese troops results in a fresh menace at Shanghai.

"The Japanese feel that they have fought the battles of other nations as well as their own in Shanghai, and they have gained only worldwide odium" he concludes.—Reuter.

Audience with Emperor

May 11.

Military authorities decided to-day that all Japanese army forces in the Shanghai area will be withdrawn to original posts in Japan immediately, leaving guard of the area to be conducted entirely by the Japanese marine forces until convening of the projected round-table conference.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon Lieut. General J. Mazaki, Vice-Chief of the General Staff, was received in audience by H. I. M. Emperor Hirohito at the Imperial Palace, and he obtained the Imperial sanction for this plan of the War Office.

Orders to that effect were subsequently issued by the military authorities to General Y. Shirakawa, commander of the Japanese Expeditionary Force at Shanghai, Lieut. General K. Uyeda, commander of the ninth Division, and Lieut. General Shibayama, commander of the remaining part of the Ninth Division in Japan.—United Press.

Mr. Quo's Statement

Shanghai, Apr. 11.

With reference to the Tokyo message through Reuter announcing that the Japanese troops will be completely withdrawn from Shanghai within a month, and in which an official Japanese spokesman suggests that Chinese troops will not be permitted to "enter the 20-kilometre zone," Mr. Quo Tai-chi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chief Chinese delegate, interviewed this evening, said that throughout the course of the negotiations between the Chinese and Japanese delegates, in which the Ministers of the friendly Powers participated, no proposal was ever mentioned or discussed regarding a "20-kilometre zone;" and if such a proposal had been brought up, the Chinese side would have rejected it instantly.

Mr. Quo called attention to the Chinese declaration on Article 2 of the Agreement stating: "It is understood that nothing in this agreement implies any permanent restriction on the movements of Chinese troops in Chinese territory. It was agreed that this declaration had been accepted by the meeting."—Kuo Min.

Navy Evacuating Also

An official communique issued by the Japanese Consulate-General yesterday stated:—

"The Japanese naval landing party proposes to withdraw its defence

The Bureau of Public Safety announced that, before taking over the district, experts will be engaged to search for mines, especially in Jukong Road and Fushan Road. As many houses were used for defence during the Chapei street fighting, searches for firearms which might have been left behind will be made. Before the restoration of the services of public utilities, the Chapei Fire Brigade will resume operations.

One important subject which will not be neglected by the authorities will be the dissolution of all illegal organisations, it was pointed out by an officer of the Bureau of Public Safety. All people connected with such illegal bodies will be arrested and punished. Searches for the ringleaders, for whom warrants have been issued by the City Government of Greater Shanghai, will be continued until they are arrested and duly punished.

To Repair Tracks

In view of the urgent need of communications between Shanghai and Nanking, the authorities of the Shanghai-Nanking and the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Railways are now preparing to resume services. Mr. Tseng Pao-chao, Chief of the Traffic Department, has been instructed to take charge of the arrangements. A survey of the western portion of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway has been made and it was found that the station at Huangtu had been destroyed by fire, while the Nanziang station had been looted by bandits after the Japanese withdrawal. According to reports presented to the railway authorities, the two stations will have to undergo considerable repairs.

Beginning to-day, tracks along the Shanghai-Nanking Railway will be repaired. Special repair wagons have been despatched to Chingyang-kang Bridge, and it is expected that the repair work will be completed by next Monday. The tracks in the western district of Shanghai have been joined. However, it will be some time before the traffic at the North Railway Station, which was entirely destroyed by bombs, will be resumed.

INTERVENTION AT INTERVIEW

Chinese Allegations of Japanese Surveillance

Geneva, May 10.

Dr. W. W. Yen has communicated to the League Secretariat a telegram from the Chinese Government dated May 9 stating that the surveillance by Japanese of Dr. Wellington Koo has been even more strict since the arrival of the League of Nations Commission of Inquiry in Changchun.

The telegram states that while Dr. Koo was interviewing some American missionaries a number of Japanese suddenly appeared in the room and insisted upon knowing the names of the guests and the substance of the interviews.

Mr. W. Astor, secretary to Lord Lytton, was an eye-witness to this sudden intervention and rebuked the Japanese who then withdrew. Mr. Astor declaring that the police had no right to interfere.

The Japanese have addressed a communication to the Secretariat in reference to a Chinese communication of May 6 regarding the Wuchen Road bridge incident.

The Japanese statement says that for some time past a Chinese mob, sheltering behind trenches made by American marines south of Wuchen Road bridge had been throwing stones at Japanese sentries posted on the north bank of the creek.

On May 3, (it goes on) some 300 Chinese indulged in further provocation, throwing stones at Japanese marines who, losing patience, sent some 30 men without rifles to disperse the crowd. Blows were exchanged but no Chinese was severely injured.

The Japanese note adds "There was no question of an attack on unoffending civilians as the Chinese communication would suggest."—Reuter.

Nanking, May 11.—Chinese reports received to-day show that many of the Japanese who evacuated the city after the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities in Shanghai, are now planning to return to Nanking.

When interviewed by the Chinese press at Taishan a couple of days ago, Marshal Feng Yuxiang declined to make any statement other than that he was no longer interested in political matters. As to the question of national salvation, the Marshal says that this is a matter which concerns the people of the entire nation and not a few leaders alone.

TROOPS ORDERED TO CONCENTRATE

Situation in Shanhaikuan Growing Worse

Nanking, May 11.

Reports from North China continue to carry disturbing news in regard to the situation at Shanhaikuan.

Chinese dispatches allege that the attitude of the Japanese troops at Shanhaikuan is "extremely provocative" and it is stated that Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang's troops will resist, if the Japanese forces attempt to seize that city.

Artillery units belonging to the 7th Brigade have been rushed from Peking to Luangchow, while Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang's troops at Luanchow have received orders to concentrate at Chiehshihmen.—Reuter.

Chinese Protest

Peking, May 10.

It is reported that the Chinese military authorities at Shanhaikuan have lodged a protest with the Japanese troops at their barracks last night. As the local authorities were not notified beforehand, the conduct of the Japanese is regarded as a deliberate attempt to disturb peace and order.

In addition to the arrival of police of the Manchukuo Government, it is learnt that Japanese and Korean "ronins" have entered the railway area in Shanhaikuan, which is inside the Great Wall. Japanese troops have also been increased at Chienso near Shanhaikuan. Panic prevails among the inhabitants in the city all shops were closed yesterday.

In view of the grave situation, the garrison units under General Ho Chu-kuo, Commander of the 9th Northeastern Brigade and concurrently Garrison Commander of Shanhaikuan, are exercising extra vigilance against possible trouble.—Kuo Min.

C.E.R. Bridges Destroyed

Harbin, May 10.

A heavy engagement took place yesterday 10 miles north of Harbin between troops supporting the new regime and forces opposing it. The result was a victory for the Manchukuo troops, who dispersed the loyalists, some 200 of whom are reported to have been killed.

Seven bridges, including one of steel 100 feet long, have been destroyed west of Mifen, on the Chinese Eastern Railway.

Navigation Stopped

Navigation on the Sungari has practically ceased because owners of river steamers and other craft fear confiscation if their vessels venture far down stream from Harbin.

The river here is now a most extraordinary sight. River steamers, barges, lighters and all kinds of river craft are tied up at wharves or anchored in the river, a tremendous collection of idle river craft. The carrying business on the river, one of the most important trade routes in Manchuria, had practically come to a standstill because of war-like conditions, general sense of insecurity and fear of confiscation.—Reuter.

To Conduct Bombing Raid

Tsitsihar, May 11.

The Japanese flying squadron left here this morning to conduct a bombing raid against soldier-bandits under Li Hai-tsing, whose forces are concentrating in the vicinity of Paolochen.—United Press.

Visit to Japanese Commander Harbin, May 11.

The League Commission of Inquiry this morning visited Lieutenant-General Hirose, commander of the 10th Division of the Japanese army, at his headquarters here, the Japanese commander describing the operations against bandits in northern Manchuria.

Prior to this conference, representatives of the White Russian community made a call upon the League commissioners and gave detailed information regarding their sufferings under the oppression of the former military regime of General Chang Hsueh-liang, and expressed themselves as desirous of furthering the progress of the new state of Manchukuo.—United Press.

Japanese Casualties in Fighting

Tokyo, May 11.

According to the War Office, total number that fell and wounded, inclusive of the navy, in the incidents in Manchuria and Shanghai, up to present, reached 3,386.—Rengo.

General Ma Chan-shan has issued a circular telegram denying the allegations that Soviet Russia is supplying his troops with aeroplanes and arms.

Friday, May 13

JAPANESE WITHDRAWAL

Embarkation Expected on May 20: War Minister's Statement

Japanese Army Headquarters in Shanghai make no comment on the decision of their Government to recall all their military forces from the Shanghai area within the ensuing month. They point out that the statement issued by the War Minister in Tokyo is self-explanatory and requires no illuminating. It is thought that the troops will commence to embark about the 20th of this month and complete the evacuation by the end of the month or the beginning of the next month. Considerable apprehension is felt by the Japanese residents of Shanghai at this sudden decision of the Tokyo Government and petitions are being prepared for presentation to the authorities to bring about a reconsideration of the edict.

After the departure of 400 more bluejackets of the Naval Landing Party in a few days the total strength of the Landing Party left here will be about 2,000. This number is slightly more than were maintained here prior to the outbreak of hostilities. The following communique was issued last night from the Headquarters of the Naval Landing Party:

"The withdrawal of the Naval Landing Party Forces from West Chapei, the so-called pocket area (bounded roughly on the south by the Soochow Creek, west by Markham Road Junction, on the north the North Station and Railway Line, and east by North Tibet Road) will begin and be completed on May 16. The withdrawal of the Naval Forces from the area north of the Railway line and adjoining the above-mentioned pocket area will be done shortly afterwards."

Official Communique

An official communique issued last night states:

Lieutenant-General S. Araki, the Minister of War, made, in brief, the following statement, on May 11, 4 p.m., relative to the withdrawal of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in the Shanghai district:

"Ever since the outbreak of the unfortunate hostilities in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, the Japanese Army has endeavoured to achieve its objective of protecting the Japanese nationals. Although it was not possible to avoid disastrous conflict, the aims of the Japanese Army were attained by the retreat of the Chinese troops to a certain distance. With self-restraint and moderation, the Japanese troops limited their activities, inasmuch as they were prompted by the sole purpose of the re-establishment of peaceful conditions."

"Meanwhile, the friendly Powers as well as the League of Nations urged upon the contending parties an arrangement to cease hostilities on condition that negotiations looking forward to the maintenance of peace around Shanghai should proceed. Such, of course, were the cherished hopes of the Japanese army. It is the source of great rejoicing that an agreement for the cessation of hostilities has been brought about, by the good offices and co-operation of the representatives of Great Britain, America, France and Italy of over two months, since the beginning of March."

"The aforesaid Agreement merely provides for the cessation of hostilities and does not meet the permanent requirements assuring the peace of the Shanghai districts. However, it stipulates not only that 'the Chinese troops will remain in their present positions' at certain distances from Shanghai, but that 'so far as lies in their control,' they are to cease 'around Shanghai all and every form of hostile act.' In the event of doubt 'arising in this regard' it 'will be ascertained by the representatives of' Great Britain, America, France and Italy."

"Hence, if the Chinese side should observe the agreement faithfully, and if the representatives of the participating friendly Powers should execute their function according to the Agreement, the disturbance by the Chinese troops in the neighbourhood of Shanghai can, for the time being, be avoided. Moreover following the conclusion of the agreement for the cessation of hostilities, the round-table conference is to be convened to establish the means of the maintenance of peace around the city."

"For these reasons, the Japanese army, trusting to the working of the agreement for the cessation of hostilities and the vigilance of the representatives of friendly Powers, conceived in the establishment of peace in the

Shanghai districts has ordered all the troops to return and watch calmly for the future development of the situation around Shanghai."

Nanking Comment

Nanking, May 12.

The hope of the Japanese Foreign Office spokesman yesterday that the "Chinese government will not permit Chinese troops to enter the 20-kilometre zone" following the evacuation of Shanghai has brought forth a vigorous denunciation both in official circles and in the local press.

It is pointed out here that nothing is mentioned in the armistice agreement forbidding Chinese troops to enter the 20-kilometre zone. Furthermore, the Chinese delegates, on the day the armistice agreement was signed, declared before the full assembly of the delegates that the agreement in no way binds the full freedom of the Chinese Government in the matter of movement or disposition of Chinese troops.

This statement was accepted by the Japanese delegates without debate, it is pointed out, and it is regarded here as extremely surprising that such a statement should come from Tokyo as was made by the Japanese Foreign Office spokesman yesterday.—Reuter.

Neutral Zone Idea Mooted

Tokyo, May 12.

Complete evacuation of Japanese troops from Shanghai will hasten the convening of the proposed round-table conference, in the opinion of Lieut.-General Sadao Araki, Minister of War, an interview with the United Press to-day.

Japan's objectives at such a conference, according to General Araki, would be the establishment of a neutral zone about Shanghai and complete cessation of the anti-Japanese movement in the city and China generally.

General Araki conveyed a broad hint that in his opinion, unless China reconsiders her attitude against Japan, a second or third so-called "Shanghai incident" might occur.

He voiced the belief that Japanese in Shanghai may resume their customary employment without anxiety even after all Japanese troops have evacuated, since the truce agreement was signed in the presence of and with approval of, friendly Powers and a special landing party of the Navy will continue to guard the area.

"In addition," he said, "the evacuated troops will stand by at their original positions in Japan and will be ready to rush to Shanghai again if the situation should become threatening at any time."

The Round-Table Conference Major-General Kanichiro Tashiro, Chief Staff Officer of the Japanese expeditionary force at Shanghai will be the representative of the Japanese army at the approaching round-table conference in Shanghai, it was decided to-day.

General Shirakawa, commander in Shanghai, Lieut.-General K. Uyeda, commander of the Ninth Division, and other military commanders are to return to Japan soon in accordance with the order issued by the War Office yesterday, it is understood.—United Press.

THE SITUATION AT SHANHAIKUAN

Japanese Spokesman on Chinese Rumours

Nanking, May 12.

Dispatches received to-day from Tientsin state that Japanese vanguards reached a point yesterday only eight li (2½ miles) from Shanhaikuan, and still continue their advance towards the Chinese positions.

The message further reports that Japanese troops are alleged to have dug trenches at Hungtsiangtze five li (1½ miles) from Shanhaikuan. General Ho Chu-kuo's brigade is at Chingwantao.

Another report states that Japanese troops have torn up the rails on the railway south of Shanhaikuan at Changli. Japanese armoured trains advancing south have already reached Suichung, one station north of Shanhaikuan.—Reuter.

Rumour Denied

Peking, May 12.

A spokesman of the Japanese Legation, interviewed by Reuter to-

day, declared that the reports of impending trouble in Shanhaikuan were groundless. Rumours in the Chinese vernacular newspapers that the Japanese were sending a Division to Shanhaikuan were unfounded, he said. The Japanese had not increased the garrison there which now numbered considerably less than 200 men, and had no intention of doing so.

The spokesman explained that the report that a Japanese fleet had been seen off Chinwangtao was due to the fact that every spring Japanese warships, at Port Arthur in the course of their annual manœuvres, cruised along the coast to Chefoo and Tsingtao and then returned to Port Arthur. This was done this year also, he said.—Reuter.

Fighting near Harbin

Harbin, May 12.

Japanese reinforcements continue to arrive here daily from points south and fighting is going on east and north of Harbin.

Communication has been interrupted between Hailin and Mutankiang on the eastern section of the Chinese Eastern Railway and a repair train endeavoured to get through found the track torn up and a fierce fight, raging between Chinese troops and Japanese.

Casualties are reported to be heavy and among them are two Russians wounded, the driver and fireman of one of the Japanese armoured trains.

North of Harbin, there is fighting near the Huhai railway, at a village called Wanghui.

Bandits daily become more active and daring. Four villages on the Sungari within nine miles of Harbin are burning. They were attacked and looted by gangs of bandits and it is alleged that a number of their inhabitants have been tortured.

General Matsuki, commander of the 14th division which recently was withdrawn from Shanghai, arrived here yesterday and a good number of his men with him. The 14th is relieving the 10th division under General Hirose which has now left for an unspecified destination along the Sungari river.

A detachment of the 14th division last night clashed with a body of 600 Chinese at Wokihimo on the eastern section of the Chinese Eastern Railway line and routed them.

Anxiety is felt here over the movements of a body of 6,000 Chinese under General Li Hai-tung which, after withdrawing from Nungun, entered Fuyushien on May 8 and murdered the mayor. They now are moving northwards and will probably reach the western section of the C.E.R. about the time the League Commission leaves Harbin for Tsitsihar.—Reuter.

General Offensive Planned

Nanking, May 12.

A message received this evening by the Central News Agency reports that General Ma Chan-shan's forces are preparing for a general offensive against Tsitsihar, with 25,000 Heilungkiang troops making a steady advance.—United Press.

Vladivostok on Armed Camp

Riga, May 12.

According to Far Eastern correspondence in the newspapers of this city, Vladivostok and environs has been transformed into a veritable armed camp.—Havas.

Japan's Expenditure in Manchuria

Tokyo, May 12.

Special expenditure in Manchuria is to be cut to about 70 per cent. of the amount demanded by the Departments of War, Navy, Foreign Affairs and Overseas Affairs. It has been decided by the Department of Finance after due consideration. This means that the expenditure of the War and Navy in Manchuria during the eight months following June will be trimmed to around Yen 150,000,000, while that of the Overseas Affairs Department and the Kwantung Government will be reduced to about Yen 6,000,000.—United Press.

Far Eastern Securities Improve

London, May 12.

On the Stock Exchange to-day, Far Eastern securities were strong, Japanese bonds being especially demanded, with a shortage of available stock. Prices were two to five points higher.—Reuter.

THE two Japanese military officers who were reported to be missing a few days ago have returned to their headquarters, none the worse for a little spree.

Mr. Quo Tai-chi, Political Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, is rapidly recovering from the injuries inflicted on him recently by certain persons opposed to the signing of the Sino-Japanese peace agreement. He is understood once more to have tendered his resignation as Chinese Minister to Great Britain.

Saturday, May 14

NINTH DIVISIONS WITHDRAWS

Chinese to Take Over Chapei District: Evacuated Areas Inspected

To complete the withdrawal of the Japanese soldiers from Shanghai as ordered by the Tokyo War Ministry, the Ninth Division of the Japanese army will sail for Japan in about two weeks. The Ninth Division, under the command of Lieut.-General K. Uyeda, was vigorously engaged in the Chapei and Kiangwan warfare. Their present positions are at Kiangwan, Woosung and Chenju. Some of the Japanese soldiers at Chenju and Taziang started moving out yesterday.

With the departure of the Eleventh Division, which sailed for Japan during the early part of this month, and the Ninth Division for Japan, the garrison duties for the protection of Japanese residents here will be left in the hands of the marines of the Third Fleet, approximately 2,000 strong. It is reported that the headquarters of the Japanese Forces in Shanghai will be closed in a few days, while General Shirakawa and Lieut.-General Uyeda and others are to leave for Japan in the flagship Izuma in a week's time.

As the Japanese troops are also to return all properties belonging to the two railways as well as to evacuate all schools, the railway authorities together with members of the Bureau of Education will accompany the inspection party to Chapei to-day.

No Change in Japan's Policy

Japanese press messages received from Tokyo declare the Lt.-General Sadao Araki, Minister of War, last night told the Press that there would be no change in the Government's announced policy relative to the complete withdrawal of Japanese military forces from the Shanghai area in the next month.

"We have acted on the firm belief that the time for the withdrawal had come," the War Minister is quoted to have declared. "We will not change our previously announced policy. In case of any emergency in the future, necessary steps will be taken, and the Japanese residents in Shanghai need not entertain any fear."

Opinion in the local Japanese community seems to be divided. One section strongly supports the Government's decision, and thinks that it is advisable under the circumstances to rely upon the words of the War Minister and take a policy of watch and wait.

Another group of people suggest that a delegation be sent to Tokyo to report to the Government officials on the actual conditions obtaining here, and request that the troops be stationed a little longer.

The third group proposes the petitioning for an increase in the number of bluejackets to be left here. These people think that, as the Government has announced, the task of providing protection to Japanese nationals and their property might be done by the naval landing party, but believe that the number of the naval forces which the naval authorities are planning to leave here is inadequate for the needs just now.

Chinese Troops Reach Nanking

Nanking, May 13.

Part of the 61st Division, which participated in the recent hostilities at Shanghai, arrived here this afternoon.

It is understood that the division will garrison the Shanghai-Nanking Railway between Nanking and Chinkiang, while other units of the 19th Route Army, such as the 60th Division, will garrison the section between Changchow and Tangyang and the 78th Division the section between Soochow and Wushih.

The 88th Division, which bore a large share of the Chinese fighting against the Japanese in the recent Shanghai trouble, has arrived in the capital from the "front." The Division will leave to-day for Hankow.

This particular Division suffered heavy losses from Japanese artillery and aerial bombardment when it was stationed to defend the Chinese line at Kiangwan village and Mia-changshen.—Reuter.

Chinese Policemen for Shanghai

May 13.

Five hundred well armed, smart looking police guards sent from Peking to Shanghai to take over the areas evacuated by the Japanese entrained for Kunshan at 3 o'clock to-day.

The unit, clad in brand new uniforms, arrived from the North this morning under the command of Lieut.-Gen. Lu Lu, who previously

won distinction for the efficient manner in which he performed the mission of taking over the concession areas at Tientsin when they were returned to Chinese control.

In order to avoid possible embroilment with troops along the route, the police guards made the trip from Peking without arms, but were supplied with arms and ammunition by the War Ministry as soon as they reached Nanking.

This unit is the first batch of a corps specially organized and trained by General Munthe, the Austrian expert, of which 1,000 more are coming shortly.—United Press.

Round Table Conference

Nanking, May 13.

Chinese official sources state that there is no prospect of holding a round-table conference in Shanghai until Japanese troops have withdrawn from Manchuria into the South Manchuria Railway zone.

Although Japanese troops are being withdrawn from Shanghai and a cessation of hostilities there has been agreed upon, it is regarded here as only a partial settlement of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

So long as Japanese troops occupy Chinese territory, the Chinese Government cannot negotiate with Japan regarding any political issue, state official sources.—Reuter.

New Bridge Opened at Woosung

The ceremony marking the completion and the opening of the Shirakawa bridge, spanning across Woosung creek, was held yesterday morning beginning at 11 o'clock. A large number of high military and naval officers and civilian notables attended the ceremony, which was carried out in accordance with Shinto rites.

Following the traditional Japanese custom, the oldest couple of the local Japanese community, Mr. and Mrs. Buntaro Ishimura, respectively, 69 and 64, were given the privilege to pass over the bridge first.

Shinto priests took part in the ceremony, garbed in their ceremonial robes.

The bridge, named after General Y. Shirakawa, was built by the 9th engineers' battalion, attached to the Expeditionary Forces. It took the engineers about 24 days to finish the work. It is 80.56 metres long and 6.2 metres wide, and is made of wood.

"Manchester Guardian's" View

London, May 13.

Commenting on the decision to withdraw the Japanese troops at Shanghai within a month, the "Manchester Guardian," in a leading article to-day, stresses the "plaintive" nature of the announcement at Tokyo that Japan "fought the battles of other nations at Shanghai and only gained world odium."

The journal asks what has been gained by the warfare, the aimlessness of which, it says, was obvious.

"Japan," the journal declares poured out money, thousands of Chinese are now homeless, many buildings have been destroyed and the most inhuman acts committed, all resulting in the Chinese and Japanese hating each other more bitterly—and the distracted world has been made aware of one other potential source of trouble."—Reuter.

SECOND REPORT IS BEING DRAFTED

Lytton Commission on the Manchurian Situation

Harbin, May 12.

Lord Lytton and other members of the League of Nations Inquiry Commission to-day started drafting their second preliminary report to the League.

League Committee Issues Report

Geneva, May 12.

As a result of the Shanghai committee's decisions, the Committee of 19 of the League Assembly has issued a report in which the opinion is expressed that the Assembly's resolution, aiming at a definite cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of the Japanese forces, is in process of execution and is likely to ensure complete withdrawal shortly.

As regards Manchuria the committee says it does not feel called upon to examine the situation pending the receipt of the report of the Commission of Inquiry.—Reuter.

TROOPS CLASH IN SHANHAIKUAN

120 Chinese Soldiers Said to Have Been Killed

Tokyo, May 13.

The situation in the vicinity of Shanhaikuan, which for some time has threatened to erupt dangerously, came to a head to-day, according to brief dispatches just received here from Mukden.

The messages report that Japanese troops clashed to-day with a body of Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang's "volunteers" in the neighbourhood of Shanhaikuan.

The dispatches declare that the Japanese finally dispersed the "volunteers," who are said to have left 120 dead on the field.

Their dispersal, according to the reports, came after "prolonged fighting," but the duration of the engagement and other details are not mentioned.—Reuter.

Ma Chan-shan Moving

Harbin, May 12.

General Ma Chan-shan, of Nonni river fame, is daily strengthening his position in Manchuria and he now is at the head of a large army moving southward from Koshan and is in fact reported to have occupied a number of places along the western section of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

Chinese are flocking to his banner every day. It is reported that yesterday his aeroplanes were dropping leaflets on all places between Noho and Antachan appealing to the inhabitants to support his army.

Recently his army was reported to be 40,000 strong but daily reinforcements have now brought it to the number of 55,000 men. Reports add that in addition to aeroplanes General Ma has a few tanks and a number of anti-aircraft guns and that all his men are well equipped.

The main body of this army is reported to be moving southward to the Chinese Eastern Railway western section, from Koshan and that the advance guards have already occupied most stations between Tientsiaokang, only 40 miles west of Harbin, and Tsitsihar, about 130 miles of the railway.

Preparations are being made here for the dispatch of a considerable body of Japanese and Manchukuo troops along the western C.E.R. and in the meantime Japanese aeroplanes are active.

It is feared that communication along the western C.E.R. will be interrupted soon.—Reuter.

Drive Against Bandits

Mukden, May 13.

A detachment of Japanese troops commenced a drive yesterday against a body of 500 men, described as bandits, operating in the Yuliangpo district, west of Tungliao.

On receipt of a report that bandits are ravaging the neighbourhood of Anta and Mankou, stations on the western branch of the Chinese Eastern Railway, Japanese aircraft were dispatched from Harbin to-day for the purpose of bombing them.—Reuter.

Troops Defeated

Harbin, May 13.

The tide of battle ran in favour of the combined Japanese and Manchukuo forces to-day when they succeeded in occupying Hailun.

Japanese troops have also captured Pihnsien, entering the city after the defenders had put up a stubborn resistance.

The anti-Manchukuo forces which recently advanced on Harbin from the North are now retreating. A force of anti-Manchukuo cavalry which attempted to storm Fuchien was dispersed after a sharp engagement.

It is expected that communication on the Huhai Railway will be restored to-morrow.—Reuter.

Refugees Arrive

Mukden, May 13.

Accompanying Japanese and 300 Koreans, Vice-Consul Okita of Tunghua safely arrive at Mukden at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon under guard of 260 Japanese policemen who had brought the party through bandit-infested areas from Chumutai.—United Press.

Japanese in Vladivostok

Tsurga, May 13.

Oppression of Japanese subjects in Vladivostok by the Soviet authorities of that city is steadily increasing, according to reports brought in by the Amakusa Maru, which arrived to-day from the Russian port.

Three Japanese, it is reported, have been deported from Vladivostok for no reason, while all Japanese may have to evacuate from the Russian city unless some measures are taken to afford them protection.—United Press.

Sunday, May 15

SINO-JAPANESE PROBLEMS

Chinese Views on Round-Table Conference: Prospect Remote for Parley

Despite the reports from Japanese official sources that complete evacuation of Japanese troops from Shanghai will hasten the convening of the proposed round-table conference to discuss the various outstanding Sino-Japanese problems of a political nature, views of the Chinese officials on this subject are that the prospects of holding such a conference are remote. The reasons as given by the Chinese, are that neither the League of Nations' resolutions provide for the convening of such a conference nor has Japan intimated her willingness to effect a complete settlement of the Sino-Japanese disputes, including the Manchuria problem, at the proposed round-table conference.

In an interview with a representative of the "North-China Daily News" yesterday, an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs pointed out that the purpose of the recent Sino-Japanese armistice conference held in Shanghai was two fold, namely, to reach an agreement making definite the cessation of hostilities between the opposing forces and to arrange for the withdrawal of Japanese forces from the Chinese territory in accordance with the resolutions of the League of Nations' Assembly. No understanding was reached by the Chinese and Japanese delegations during the recent armistice conference that a round-table conference is to be convened after the cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of Japanese forces, the official explained.

Furthermore, the official continued, in accordance with both the word and spirit of the League's resolutions, Japan should definitely cease her hostilities not only in Shanghai, but also in Manchuria, before opening negotiations with China for the settlement of political issues because China has since the beginning made it clear that the Shanghai and Manchuria problems should be dealt with together and not separately.

Although the Japanese troops are being withdrawn from Shanghai and a cessation of hostilities in this city has been agreed upon, it is only a partial settlement of the Sino-Japanese dispute and so long as the Japanese troops occupy Chinese territory in Manchuria, China naturally cannot open negotiations with Japan regarding any political issue, the official further stated.

In conclusion, the official said that recently reports were current here that complete evacuation of Japanese forces from Shanghai will hasten the convening of the proposed round-table conference. This opinion, he said, was expressed by Lieut.-General Araki, Japanese Minister of War, in an interview with Japanese pressmen in Tokyo on May 12. Following the signing of the armistice agreement, a communique was issued by the Japanese authorities, saying that a round-table is to be convened to establish the means of the maintenance of peace around the city. It was also reported that Maj.-Gen. Tashiro, chief of staff to the Japanese forces in Shanghai, has been named as the delegate to the proposed round-table conference.

However, stated the official, all these reports were simply expressions of the Japanese Government's desire for the convening of the proposed round-table conference, no official note having been received by the Chinese Government from Tokyo, asking for the convention of such a conference. In his opinion, the time is not yet opportune for holding the round-table conference.

Preliminary Conference

Tokyo, May 14.

The Foreign Minister Mr. Kenkichi Yoshizawa, proposed the convening in Tokyo of a preparatory conference for the Shanghai round-table conference when he met ambassadors of Great Britain, France and Italy and the acting ambassador of the United States at the Foreign Office yesterday afternoon, it was revealed to-day.

Mr. Yoshizawa expressed the opinion that such a preliminary meeting should take place in Tokyo because the Shanghai gathering is not likely to take place soon, since Sir Miles Lampson is returning to Great Britain, Japanese Minister Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu will require some time to recover from his injury, and it will require a period for complete withdrawal of the Japanese army from the Shanghai area.

The ambassadors promised to convey the proposal to their re-

spective Governments for decision.—United Press.

Transports Sail To-day

Two transports, the Zuiko Maru and the Daigen Maru No. 3, will sail from Shanghai to-day at noon to take home the advance unit of the home-going troops, marking the commencement of the general withdrawal of military forces from the Shanghai area in accordance with the announcement made a few days ago by the Tokyo Government.

Yesterday several hundred Japanese khaki-clad men and officers were seen making purchases and taking in the sights of the Hongkew side of Shanghai prior to their departure. A number were seen in the barber shops to have their hair clipped and beards shaved off, probably the first hair-cut for a long time since their arrival in Shanghai.

In the open space at the corner of Yalu and Woosung Roads, the local Japanese had put up a tent-covered resting place for these soldiers, as well as sailors. Here the men of the two services were entertained with tea and cakes.

No More Protests

No protest or petition or agitation to keep the Japanese troops longer in the Shanghai area will be made by the local Japanese community, it was learned yesterday. The residents here will simply rely upon the word of their home Government, including those uttered by the War Minister, and watch the development of the situation.

This decision was reached on Friday night at an informal gathering of leading representatives of the Nipponese community held at the Japanese Club. This decision had been generally expected by a section of the local community, although some had anticipated that agitations would be carried on to keep the troops longer.

Although the Shanghai situation was still far from what it should be and although there are still elements of danger and anxiety for Japanese nationals, it was pointed out at the meeting that under the circumstances the most advisable course to take would be to rely upon the words of the Tokyo authorities. The naval landing party, which will remain here as before the outbreak of the recent clash, should be able to cope with any emergency should it arise, it was explained.

Residents Need Not Fear

In the course of an interview given to the Japanese Press yesterday, Rear-Admiral Toma Uyenatsu, Commander of the naval landing party, stated that the Japanese residents in Shanghai should rest assured that they would be fully protected by the bluejackets in case of any emergency in the future, adding that the complete withdrawal of the army back to Japan should give no concern whatever to the community.

"We understand that the authorities in Tokyo have decided to recall all the military forces shortly, and entrust to the naval landing party the task of providing protection to Japanese nationals and their property," Rear-Admiral Uyenatsu said. "The Japanese residents may rest assured that they will be fully safe-guarded from any aggressive attacks, should such come in the future."

The strength of the bluejackets to be left in Shanghai is nearly three times that of the normal force (roughly about 2,500; during peaceful days the number was about 800). In addition, all of us have gone through the recent experiences and are thus better able to meet with emergency needs than would other wise be. We are now confident that, with our experience, increased knowledge of the local geography, and number, we can resist a force 10 times that of ours, should such a trouble as the one recently encountered break out again, although I do not hope that it will ever come again.

Relations with the West

"Again, the War Minister, Lt.-General Araki, has emphatically stated that the authorities in Tokyo were not intending to leave the Shanghai Japanese to their fate. Because of the recent experience, the despatch of troops here, if necessary, can be done considerably faster than in the past."

"On the whole, we should, I think, place more emphasis upon the relations between our country and the Western Powers than those with China herself, in studying the situation in Shanghai. If our relation with the other Powers are har-

monious and friendly, China alone will not be able to start any trouble. "We should carefully watch the trend of world opinion and general developments and act accordingly," said Admiral Ueyamatsu, according to the Press Union.

Arrival of Peking Police

Major-General Ralph Lulu, commissioner of the First, Third, and Fourth Special Areas in Tientsin, has been appointed by Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang to the concurrent post of chief commander of the Peking special police of Shanghai service. Major-General Lulu, has been spending some weeks in Peking during which time he devoted himself entirely to the training of 1,500 Chinese policemen to be brought to Shanghai, in Nanking, as special police to be stationed in Chapei, to take over when the area is evacuated by Japanese troops.

The special policemen were taken in chiefly from the Peking Pao An Tui and traffic corps, in and around the Peking area, and the vacancies thereby created are being filled by the Police Training Bureau of the old capital.

The 1,500 specially trained men are equipped with new uniforms, and will be divided into three groups for their journey to the south. The first batch is due to arrive here to-day from Peking, accompanied by Major-General Lulu.

The decision to have a special police force to patrol the Chapei area was made by the Nanking Government, in view of the fact that the present police now stationed in Chapei are believed to have some connection with the Japanese authorities as spies. Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang has, therefore, been ordered to despatch new policemen from the north for replacement.

If the Government decides to keep the men on a separate footing from the Greater Shanghai Bureau of Public Safety, another 2,500 men will have to be organized and trained in the north to be brought to Shanghai, as at least 4,000 police are required to patrol the Chapei area.

Document to Be Left Unsigned

Nanking, May 14.

It is learned from authoritative sources this evening that the Chinese Government intends to suggest that the Chinese and Japanese texts of the Shanghai armistice agreement remain unsigned. This, of course, in no way affects the agreement, as the English text, which has already been signed, prevails in case of any dispute.

The Government is suggesting the non-signature of the Chinese and Japanese texts because of the difficulty of wording them acceptably to both parties. It is considered certain that the Japanese Government will accept the suggestion, as a similar proposal recently emanated from Tokyo.—Reuter.

ANTI-MANCHUKUO ACTING

Troops Set Fire to Railway Station

Harbin, May 13.

During temporary absence of the Japanese garrison from Wokimihio yesterday the railway station and settlement was attacked by a considerable body of anti-Manchukuo Chinese troops who obviously were well aware of Japanese movements. They looted the town of everything of value and then set fire to it.

At the railway station they destroyed all telephone and telegraph instruments and cut the wires. Before departing they set fire to the station and then to two small bridges nearby.

Wokimihio is about 20 miles west of Imienpo.

General Offensive Starts

May 14.

General Hirose proceeded by air to-day to Fangcheng personally to direct the general offensive which commenced yesterday against the anti-Manchukuo troops at Ilan commanded by General Li Tu. The anti-Manchukuo troops there are estimated to number 4,000 officers and men.—Reuter.

Situation Eases

Chinwangtao, May 14.

The situation was calm to-day following the clash in the vicinity of Shanhaikuan yesterday between Japanese troops and a body of Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang's "volunteers." However, that threat of further disturbances has not subsided and Shanhaikuan itself is still a potential source of trouble.

The railway station there is now policed by four different forces, namely, police belonging to the Chinese Eastern Railway; troops belonging to Marshal Chang Hsueh-

Monday, May 16

EVACUATION OF CHAPEI

Chinese to Take Over District To-day: Peking Policemen Arrive

Members of the committee to take over the evacuated districts together with delegates of the City Government of Greater Shanghai inspected Chapei yesterday morning. The area covered on the trip lies to the north of the Soochow Creek and south of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway tracks and will be evacuated by the Japanese troops to-day.

Special police from Peking, 500 strong, arrived in Nantao by boat yesterday morning. The contingent and members of the above committee are to enter the evacuated area this morning.

As the tracks are still in the area controlled by the Japanese troops, arrangements will be made by the railway authorities with the Japanese officials to allow Chinese to effect necessary repairs to the railway so that traffic between Shanghai and Nanking can be resumed at an early date.

The inspection party was divided into two batches: the public safety batch and the public utilities batch. The party, consisting of 16 official members and several Chinese reporters, started from its headquarters in Route Herve de Sieyes. After an arrangement for the inspection had been completed in a Japanese hotel in Woosung Road, the party entered Jukong Road from Woosung Road. The public safety batch visited all the police stations in the area, while the public utilities batch inspected electricity works and the telephone company.

Meeting Held

Following the inspection, the members held a meeting in their headquarters in the French Concession. It was then decided to take a census of the residents in the evacuated area on the same day and that martial law be declared from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. next day after the district is taken over. The Bureau of Public Utilities has been instructed to repair the street lamps and telephone communication. Members of the Chapei Fire Brigade will also report for duty to-day.

The inspection of Taziang, Liukahang, Lotien and Chenju was completed last week. The Japanese troops are to withdraw from Taziang at 1 p.m. to-morrow. It is expected that with the completion of the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Taziang, Chenju and other outlying districts, the area to the north of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway tracks will also be evacuated. The complete withdrawal into areas prior to January 28 is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Simultaneously, men of the 19th Route Army have also removed to a telegram received by General Wu Te-chen, Mayor of Greater Shanghai, headquarters of the 19th Route Army have been removed to Soochow and that there are only a small number of soldiers at the original positions.

Japanese Reparations

Nine o'clock yesterday morning ushered in a period of intense activity at the Headquarters of the 5th Japanese Naval Division in Shin Ming Road, Chapei. Before the arrival of the Chinese Commission fatigue parties were busy loading

liang; Japanese railway guards; and, finally, police representing the new administration in Manchuria.

The situation is tense and it is feared that one solitary spark will be sufficient to start a conflagration. It is interesting to note that the majority of the Manchukuo police at the station are Japanese. Like their fellow-police from the new State, they are wearing Manchukuo uniforms.

It is reported here to-day that a Japanese cruiser is now anchored off Hulutao, the new Manchurian port.—Reuter.

Wokimi Occupied

Harbin, May 14.

The Japanese forces to-day occupied Wokimi and are repairing the damaged bridges in the vicinity of that city. It is expected that communication with Imienpo will be restored on Monday.

Owing to a defective switch, the baggage van, a first and a third-class carriage were derailed when last night's passenger train was on its way to Changchun, the new capital of Manchuria. The mishap occurred three miles from here.—Reuter.

lorries with the stores and paraphernalia of the field and barracks. Numerous rolls of barbed wire, stakes, field kitchens, tools, baths and such like were carried away to Japanese Headquarters in Kiangwan Road in order to leave the Shin Ming School premises ready for occupation by the Chinese to-day.

At 9.45 a.m. the Chinese Commission arrived, composed of fifteen local delegates from various public departments of Greater Shanghai. After the formal preliminaries had been concluded between the Chinese Commission and the Japanese authorities the former were conducted in cars on a tour of the area by the Adjutant of the Commander of the 5th Japanese Division and several Japanese naval and military officers.

The first stop was made at the Police Station on Kong Wu road, which has been temporarily used as a barracks by a Japanese detachment. After a thorough examination of the main building and various outbuildings the party proceeded to the offices of the Chapei District Maintenance Association in Ming Li Road.

The next visit was to the 1st Division Fire Brigade Station in the Shin Ming Road. There had been left in entire disarray during Japanese occupation. The cars, instruments and assorted fire-fighting impedimenta stood in confusion over the hall under a thick layer of dust and rust. The yard was strewn with debris and refuse.

It will be a considerable time before a fire can be extinguished by this station, although it is understood that the Bureau of Public Safety has already allocated 32 men and two extra cars for service there.

After leaving the fire-station the party made a complete circuit of the bounds of the sector.

The actual area of Chapei, towards the recovery of which these first steps have been taken, comprises No. 4 District and Nos. 1 and 2 sub-stations.

Committee for War Areas

Nanking, May 14.

The Executive Yuan, at its 31st meeting to-day, decided to organize a Preparatory Committee for the Rehabilitation of the war areas in Shanghai and Woosung with Mr. T. V. Soong, Minister of Finance, as Chairman. The following were appointed members of the committee: General Huang Shao-hsiung, Minister of Interior; Mr. Chen Kung-po, Minister of Industry; General Ku Chu-tung, Chairman of the Kiangsu Provincial Government; Mr. Wu Te-chen, Mayor of Shanghai; Mr. Tung Hsiu-chia, Provincial Commissioner of Reconstruction for Kiangsu; Mr. Wang Siao-lai, Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Shih Liang-tsai, Managing-Director of the "Shun Pao"; Mr. Yu Ya-ching, Managing-Director of the San Peh Steam Navigation Company; Mr. Hu Pi-kiang, General Manager of the China and South Seas Bank at Shanghai; Mr. Chang Shou-yung, Political Vice-Minister of Finance; Mr. Chang Kia-ngau, General Manager of the Bank of China; Mr. Li Ming, General Manager of the Chekiang Industrial Bank; Mr. Lu Hsueh-pu, President of the Bank of Communications; Mr. Chin Jun-ching, President of the Shanghai Native Bankers' Guild; Mr. Hu Yun-chuang, well-known industrialist.

Railway Traffic to Resume

May 15.

Resumption of normal traffic on the entire length of the Nanking-Shanghai Railway is expected before the 20th, according to information from the Ministry of Railways.

Following the evacuation of Japanese troops from the outlying districts of Shanghai, repairs on damaged rails, bridges, and other properties of the line were completed yesterday up to Nanzhang. Officials of the Traffic Department of the railway made a trial run from Quinsan to Nanzhang later in the day and reported that everything was in order for resumption of traffic up to that point. Barring unforeseen obstacles, it is understood that traffic will be operated from Nanking to Nanzhang early in the week.

As to the last section of the line from Nanzhang to the Shanghai North Station, officials expressed the belief that repairs would take but a couple of days as the damage there is comparatively slight. However, work cannot begin until Japanese troops have evacuated Chenju and Chapei.—Kuo Min.

ATROCITIES AT TUNGHO

Chinese File Charges at Geneva

Geneva, May 14.

A Nanking telegram declaring that Japan has been continuously committing acts of provocation in the direction of Shanhaikuan through the instrumentality of a puppet Government, and accusing Japanese troops in Manchuria of a wide variety of atrocities, was submitted to the League of Nations to-day by the Chinese delegation.

The telegram stated that during the past several days, the Japanese have been opening gun and rifle fire about Shanhaikuan with the object of disturbing peace and order.

General Ma Chang-shen reports, according to the message, that Japanese troops who entered the town of Tungho set fire to buildings, looted the town of foodstuffs, disarmed the police, arrested and imprisoned the town magistrate on their gunboat, killed women refugees with bayonets, sealed up the mouths of pits where civilians had been hiding for safety, and put them to death by burning.

Such atrocities, the Chinese declared, are against all the principles of humanity.

Japanese Tell of Brigands

Another document entitled "Brigandage and Disorder in Manchuria" was submitted by the Japanese delegation. This document stated that between March 1 and 10, there have been 574 acts of brigandage in the neighbourhood of the South Manchuria Railway zone.

The Japanese statement declared that there had been 417 attacks between March 11 and 20, 612 between March 21 and March 31, and 539 between April 1 and 10.

Five hundred and eighty-one of these attacks, according to the Japanese, were committed by bands of more than 200 men. A total of 34 persons have been killed or wounded and 626 persons have been taken as hostages, it was stated.

The former rulers of Manchuria have resumed an active campaign, stirring up disorder. In this connection an increase in the number of large bodies of brigands has been noted.

"The fomenters redoubled their efforts on the arrival of the League of Nations Inquiry Commission, more especially in northern Manchuria and Chientao.

"Evidence has been secured that General Chang Hsueh-liang has been issuing large quantities of counterfeit Taiyang notes."

The statement declared that disorders have been fomented in the province of Jehol by forces opposed to the Kirin Government, and that the disturbers continue to pillage the eastern part of the Chinese Eastern Railway while the Manchouli area is quiet.

In concluding, the statement said:

"Japanese residents in the Peiho area have been obliged to take refuge temporarily in Soviet territory on account of the disturbances in that district."—United Press.

Chinese Irregulars Defeated

Harbin, May 14.

A big battle is proceeding ten kilometres west of Imienpo. The Russian driver of a breakdown train on this section of the line was seriously wounded to-day.

Communication on the eastern section of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which was resumed to Wokimihio, which was looted and burned yesterday by anti-Manchukuo Chinese troops.—Reuter.

May 15.

The Nakamura detachment of the Tenth Division under Lieut.-General Hirose severely defeated 4,000 Chinese irregulars at Ilan yesterday afternoon and captured Ilan, according to reports here to-day.

Another report said that the Chinese troops fighting the Kirin Japanese dissolved because of internal trouble.

Thousands of Tungho dwellers are reported starving as a result of the complete destruction of the city by fire started by bandits.—United Press.

Mukden, May 15.

Severe fighting has continued in the Tunghua area for the past three days between Manchukuo troops, under Yu Chih-shan, and Chinese irregulars.

Latest news said that the Manchukuo army had at last been successful and had captured Liuhuo, with the irregulars fleeing toward Tunghua.—United Press.

"Aimless War"

Nanking, May 15.

The official "Central Daily News" this morning in a leading article

expresses its complete loss to understand Japanese policy in regard to relations with China.

It says: "First the Japanese invaded Manchuria, then attacked Chinese troops in Shanghai. Recently Tokyo announced the withdrawal of troops from Shanghai and now we here of a tense situation at Shanhaikuan."

"Not only has China suffered heavy losses but it is safe to state that Japan has gained nothing from this policy of continuous aimless war. What Japan has persistently claimed as justification of her aggressive policy was 'economic reasons' yet she has suffered most in this respect because of her policy of aggression. China has never opposed foreign co-operation in the economic development of this country, she has only adopted a firm attitude that her sovereign rights be left unaffected."

Continuing the paper declares, "Japan can easily reach an understanding with China over economic problems without resorting to armed aggression. But as long as the Sino-Japanese dispute remains unsettled China cannot make any progress towards reconstruction and Japan will not have one day of peace or prosperity. The Manchurian and Shanghai situations have definitely proved that Japanese policy of settling disputes by armed force has failed. For the welfare of the Far East and for the welfare of China and Japan it is time for Japan to realize her mistake."

"If she does not, this aimless and continuous war will merely drag the Far East into a state of backwardness on a level with the black races of Africa, killing all hope of prosperity or advancement for the yellow race. Therefore for peace in the Far East and in the interests of both countries we trust the Japanese people will think carefully and check immediately this headlong plunge to destruction."—Reuter.

Soviet and Manchukuo

Hiinking, (Changchun), May 15.

Indications that Soviet Russia would be the first country to recognize the new state of Manchukuo were seen to-day when the Manchukuo Government announced that, accepting a proposal from the U.S.S.R., it had decided to send consuls to Vladivostok, Khabarovsk and Blagoveschensk.

Formal negotiations were conducted by Mr. C. Ohashi, chief of the General Affairs Department of the Foreign Office of Manchukuo, and the Russian Consul-General at Harbin, it was said.

Mr. Shih Chai-shin, the Foreign Minister of Manchukuo, said to-day that he believed a treaty of amity between Manchukuo and Soviet Russia would be concluded shortly.—United Press.

DR. KOO TAKES AN ACTIVE PART

Attends Commission Meeting for First Time in Manchukuo

Harbin, May 15.

Much discussion has been aroused over the fact that Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Chinese Assessor to the League of Nations Inquiry Commission, joined yesterday's conference of members of the commission at the British Consulate-General.

He has not heretofore acted actively as a member of the commission since their entry into Manchukuo territory, because of objections to his presence on the part of the Manchukuo Government.

The conference dealt with the number of Japanese troops in northern Manchuria and relations between Japan and the "White" Russians, it was revealed.—United Press.

WAR MENACE STILL EXISTENT

Comrade Molotov's Warning to Soviet Citizens

Moscow, May 14.

Illusions that the situation in the Far East was approaching consolidation and that the danger of war, if it ever was present, has at any rate now passed, were rudely shattered to-day by a speech by Comrade Molotov, Chairman of the Council of Peoples Commissaries.

Comrade Molotov declared that the menace of war was growing daily and that preparations for it were prompted by the intention to disturb the process of Russia's reconstruction.

"Even so, the Soviet Union will do everything possible to avoid war, but if it does break out I am confident that our Red Army will do its duty and give an excellent account of itself," Comrade Molotov concluded.—Trans-Ocean Kuo Min.

Tuesday, May 17

POTENTIALITIES FOR DANGER

Neutral Observers on Shanhaikuan Situation:
Gen. Ho's Interview

Shanhaikuan, May 15.

Interviewed by Reuter's special correspondent to-day, General Ho Chu-kuo, commander of the Shanhaikuan area, ridiculed as absurd the Mukden dispatches to Tokyo reporting that Japanese troops clashed with a body of Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang's "volunteers" in the vicinity of Shanhaikuan on Friday, with the result that 120 Chinese soldiers were killed.

General Ho declared that while the situation at Shanhaikuan was outwardly calm, it was critical on account of the provocative attitude of the Japanese. The Manchukuo police who had recently arrived at the Shanhaikuan railway station, he said, consisted of 40 Japanese or Korean and 20 Chinese, all of whom had come from the Kuantung Leased Territory.

General Ho said he had promised the Japanese that he would prevent the influx of "volunteers" into Manchuria from the area under his control, which extended along the Great Wall from Shanhaikuan to Chiumen. He had not violated this guarantee.

Determined to Resist

The Japanese, he added, had recently demanded the right to arrest suspects in the Shanhaikuan area, but he had resolutely refused. In case the Japanese attacked, he was determined to offer resistance, but he was not fortifying his positions as he wished to avoid a possible misunderstanding.

In the opinion of independent observers the situation at Shanhaikuan resembles that which prevailed in Tientsin last year. There is no doubting the dangerous potentialities of the situation.

The increase of Manchukuo police inside the Great Wall and the fact that the Japanese barracks here have been strongly fortified have not served to ally the apprehension felt in Chinese circles.

Officials of the Peking-Mukden Railway state that in the last three days passenger traffic has been practically nil, but an improvement was shown to-day.—Reuter.

Japanese Firing Reported

Chinwangtao, May 16.

Shortly before midnight last night Japanese soldiers stationed near Shanhaikuan began firing and according to some reliable sources bullets fell in the Chinese military headquarters. No damage was done but the population there is reported to be very excited and a number left this morning for Chinwangtao.

Official information telephoned from Shanhaikuan states that during the past two weeks the Japanese garrison at Shanhaikuan has held firing practice nightly, using blank cartridges and usually notifying the Chinese authorities beforehand.

Last night at about 11 o'clock and without notification firing opened as usual from the Japanese barracks but on this occasion live cartridges were used as bullets struck police headquarters at the south east corner of the city wall.

General Ho Chu-kuo, the garrison commander, is doing his best to pacify the population and to prevent a clash between his men and the Japanese troops.—Reuter.

Extended Activities Likely

Tokyo, May 16.

A strict censorship here has prevented news of the movements of the 14th division of the army, recently on duty around Shanghai, but it is understood officially that a part if not all the division, except reserves, is being sent to Manchuria and that part of the troops already have landed in Dairen.

Reserves of the division were reported to have returned to Japan, meaning that only the peace time strength of the organisation will serve in Manchuria. Arrival of the division will bring the total number of Japanese troops in Manchuria to around 50,000 according to estimates by foreign military attaches here.

Once the 14th division is distributed at desired points it is anticipated the Army will start more extensive activities against Chinese forces opposed to the independent regime of Manchukuo.

Heavy Fighting Likely

Heavy fighting in various areas, particularly north of the Chinese Eastern Railway is considered probable next month as there are large forces of Chinese troops in this region, particularly north-east of Har-

bin, where Generals Ting Chao and Li Tu are in command of fairly well equipped and capable units including troops of the old C.E.R. guard of which Ting Chao formerly was commander.—United Press.

Anti-Manchukuo Defeated

Harbin, May 15.

As a result of the battle a few miles west of Imienpo the anti-Manchukuo forces have been forced to retreat after suffering heavy casualties.

Their retreat has enabled the railway to run as far as Imienpo again, the track having been repaired.—Reuter.

PEACE AGREEMENT
TRANSLATIONSJapanese and Chinese Texts
Signed

The Japanese and Chinese texts of the Shanghai Peace Agreement were signed yesterday afternoon after careful revisions had been concluded in the translations by both sides. The documents were first signed by Generals Tai Chi and Gaston K. Huang, and then by Mr. Quo Tai-chi, the retiring Political Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is recuperating at his residence.

Immediately after the signatures having been appended by the Chinese delegates, the documents were taken to the Japanese Consulate by Mr. Samuel Chang, Director of the Intelligence Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. K. Okasaki, secretary to the Japanese Legation. Rear-Admiral S. Shimada and Major-General K. Tashiro signed the documents at the Japanese consulate. Afterwards the copies were taken to the Fuming Hospital for the signature of Mr. M. Shigemitsu, the Japanese Minister, and to the Japanese Field Hospital for that of General K. Ueyda.

Evacuation Proceeding

The headquarters of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Shanghai yesterday issued a communique announcing that a notice had been sent to the members of the Mixed Commission informing them that Japanese garrison troops at Chenju station and its vicinity would withdraw at about 1 p.m., May 20, and that therefore, arrangements should be made to have Chinese special police forces sent to take over the policing duties on that day.

The "pocket area" of Chapei, south of the Shanghai-Nanking railway line, was completely turned over to the Chinese authorities yesterday morning by the Japanese naval landing party as per arrangements made yesterday between the Chinese and the Japanese officials. Some 250 special Chinese police officers were present when the Japanese sailors withdrew from the district.

GOVERNMENT NOT TO
MOVE TO NANKINGSeat to be Retained at Loyang
For the Present

Nanking, May 15. It is understood that despite the settlement of the Shanghai impasse, the seat of the National Government will not be moved back to Nanking being at least for the time being. As the decision to remove the seat of Government to Loyang was formally ratified by the recent 2nd plenary session of the C.E.C., it will not be within the competence of either the National Government or the Standing Committee of the C.E.C. to over-ride that decision. Moreover, the Sino-Japanese situation is not considered to have shown such improvement as to justify the reversion of the Government seat to Nanking. Thus, if the Government seat is to be moved back to Nanking, it will not be until the convocation of the 3rd plenary session that this move can be properly carried out.—Kuo Min.

DAMAGES wrought to the various universities and colleges around Shanghai during the recent Sino-Japanese hostilities are estimated at \$9,000,000. According to a survey made by the Bureau of Education of the City Government of Greater Shanghai, 14 Government and private universities, 23 middle schools and 54 primary schools were damaged by gunfire. The losses of the universities alone exceed \$7,000,000.

CHINESE BUYING IN
BRITAINEntire Satisfaction Over
Commission's Work

London, May 12.

Entire satisfaction over the work accomplished by the Chinese Government's purchasing commission, in spite of set-backs, and also the close co-operation between Chinese and British members was expressed by all members of the commission at the first annual meeting to-day.

The commission was formed under the terms of the agreement for settlement of the British returned Boxer indemnity. The meeting approved the annual report, which will be sent to the Chinese Government.

Dr. Alfred Sze, Chinese Minister in London, remains chairman of the commission, Sir Ralph Wedgewood vice-chairman, and Sir Basil Blackett, treasurer.

At a business meeting held later fresh contracts for the supply of railway materials was signed.

The commission will sit again in June.—Reuter.

TRIBUTE TO SIR MILES
LAMPSONChinese Journal Praises Peace
Efforts

Nanking, May 14.

Under the caption "Peace Envoy Lampson" the official "Central Daily News," in a leading article to-day, pays a high tribute to the British Minister to China.

"Since the outbreak of the Manchurian trouble," the journal declares, "two persons in the position of holding justice and mediating for peace. One was Lord Cecil, who represented Britain at Geneva, and the other Sir Miles Lampson, who is returning to England shortly on leave. Lord Cecil is a well known figure in international political circles. He has always been a staunch supporter of the League of Nations and of disarmament. Whether people agree or disagree with his views, he is always respected."

"Sir Miles Lampson, though comparatively a newcomer on the international horizon, has won world recognition and tribute for his fine work in the cause of peace since the outbreak of the recent hostilities. He is a man of extraordinary will power, not afraid of obstacles or criticism. The attack on him by the Japanese press last winter and the almost insurmountable difficulties in connection with the Shanghai armistice failed to discourage him."

"Since the time of Sir John Jordan, Sir Miles Lampson has more closely related with China's international relations than any other individual of a foreign Power."

"Sir John Jordan represented British policy in China before the Washington Conference, whereas Sir Miles Lampson has represented British policy after the Conference. In 1926, when the British Government published its historical memorandum outlining British policy in China, Sir Miles Lampson was appointed Minister to China."

"Sir Miles Lampson's three most important achievements were the Sino-British Customs agreement signed in 1928, the rendition of Wei-haiwei in 1930 and the Sino-British extra-territoriality negotiations. The first two have already reached a successful conclusion. While the locked and the details have never been revealed, they have been the most successful of all the extraterritorial negotiations with the Powers."

"It is also generally known that if it had not been for the Thorburn case, the Sino-British extraterritorial negotiations would probably now have also reached a successful conclusion. We sincerely hope that the negotiations will be resumed soon."

"While we claim Sir Miles Lampson as a friend of China, Britain has gained prestige and friendship in China through his able representation."

"The British Minister's expressions and actions of friendship towards China have been principally responsible for the growth of British trade in this country. This contrasts distinctly with the results of Japan's aggressive policy, which has caused a steady drop in Japanese trade."

"Now that Sir Miles Lampson is shortly returning to England, we are sure that England, through him, will understand better the situation in China, have a closer sympathy with the Chinese people, will know that China welcomes foreign co-operation for the economic development of China, and he will bring members ordering them to refrain from participating in any such a demonstration.—Kuo Min, Reuter.

BRITISH LEGATION TO BE
AT PEKINGNo Change Contemplated by
Home Government

London, May 11.

Whether the British Minister to China would reside at the seat of the Government or whether the British Legation would be maintained at Peking was the question asked by Mr. A. E. L. Chorlton, Conservative member for the Plating division of Manchester, in the House of Commons to-day.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir John Simon, replied that no change was contemplated at present in the existing arrangements whereby the Minister made his headquarters at Peking, travelling to other places where his services were required.

He pointed out that a member of the British Legation permanently resided at Nanking and added that considerations of expense, if nothing else would render it necessary carefully to examine whether a change would be justified.

He was quite satisfied, the Foreign Secretary continued, that Sir Miles Lampson represented Great Britain in all parts of China most satisfactorily.

Mr. A. C. Moreing, a Conservative member, asked when the British Government proposed to have diplomatic representation at Loyang, the capital of China.

Sir John Simon, the Foreign Secretary, in reply said no need had arisen for British diplomatic representation in Loyang because the Chinese Government had never entirely transferred to Loyang.

He pointed out that several important members of the Chinese Government, including the Foreign Minister through whom contact with the Government was maintained, continue to reside in Nanking.—Reuter.

THE TIBET-SIKONG
DISPUTEReports of Furious Fighting
for Five Days

Nanking, May 10.

The Tibet-Sikong dispute has broken out afresh with renewed attempts of Tibetan troops to invade Sikong.

In telegrams to President Lin Sen, President Wang Ching-wei and General Chiang Kai-shek, General Liu Wen-hui, Chairman of the Szechuan Provincial Government and concurrently Defence Commissioner for the Szechuan-Sikong Border, reports that after five days of furious fighting, the Szechuan troops have succeeded in repulsing the Tibetan forces and capturing the strategic points of Hsiungchilin and Chuowying, near the Szechuan-Sikong border. The Central Authorities are requested to give instructions for coping with the situation.—Kuo Min.

MOSCOW JOURNAL ON
NANKINGWhy China Does Not Renew
Relations with Russia

Moscow, May 13.

Soviet authorities to-day denied that steps are being taken towards rapprochement with the Manchukuo Government as charged by Nanking.

"Isvestia," the official organ of the Communist Party, says in a leading article to-day that the charge is unfounded and states that it is intended to conceal the real reason for the failure of the Nanking Government to resume diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The newspaper then makes the startling charge that formal recognition has not been arranged because Nanking "is unable to act without the permission of one of the great Powers," but does not name the nation which it says is directing China's foreign policy.—United Press.

UNREST IN POSTAL
SERVICEExecutive Yuan Takes Steps
to Check Outbreaks

Nanking, May 15.

In view of reports that a general strike of Shanghai postal employees or some other similar agitation is now brewing in Shanghai, the Executive Yuan is understood to have instructed Gen. Wu Te-chen, Mayor of the Greater Shanghai Municipality, to take effective steps for the purpose of forestalling any such movement. The Central Party Headquarters has also been requested by the Executive Yuan to issue instructions to Shanghai Party members ordering them to refrain from participating in any such a demonstration.—Kuo Min.

CHIANG MING-CHI
EXECUTEDAttempted Military Coup
at Nantao

Nanking, May 11.

Chiang Ming-chi, the leader of an attempted military coup d'etat at Nantao about a month ago, was executed here yesterday.

It will be recalled that Chiang Ming-chi organized "the South-eastern self-defence Army" and planned to seize Nantao police stations, and eventually occupy Nantao by armed force. He was, however, seized by the Settlement police who handed him over to the Shanghai-Woosung garrison Headquarters. He was then brought under military escort to Nanking on April 12 and tried by a military court of the Ministry of War, finding him guilty of the charges against him.

Chiang Ming-chi was a native of Szechuen province, and organized an association to support President Yuan Shih-kai in Japan, when Yuan Shih-kai attempted to become the Emperor of China. He was shot twice by political enemies, but never very seriously injured. In 1930 he was arrested by the authorities in Peking and imprisoned for several months. The following year he was again arrested in Nanking for exposing military secrets.—Reuter.

KUOMINTANG AND THE
PEOPLEFacilities for Airing Views
to Be Given

Nanking, May 11.

Speaking to pressmen at the Central Kuomintang headquarters to-day, Mr. Shao Yuan-chung, chairman of the Central Kuomintang publicity committee, who has been appointed vice-president and concurrently acting president of the Legislative Yuan, declared that the Government welcomed criticism and was favourably considering constructive suggestions, but in his opinion the recent criticism of the programme of political tutelage was unjustified.

Mr. Shao said that, in accordance with Dr. Sun Yat-sen's platform, the period of political tutelage was merely a transitional stage before constitutional government was formally established in China. Therefore the rule of the Kuomintang was different from the Party dictatorship in other countries like Russia and Italy, where the ruling party controlled the government permanently.

Furthermore, he added, at a time of grave national crisis it was the duty of the country to co-operate in constructive projects; this was not a time for meaningless attacks and destructive criticism.

Mr. Shao then announced that the Government was determined to establish before the end of the year on organisation through which the public could express its opinion on various Government affairs. He emphatically declared that the Kuomintang government, as one would infer from its historical background and ordinary reasoning, would never conclude any agreement for the solution of the Sino-Japanese dispute which would prejudice China's sovereign rights.

He also cautioned the press against accepting the rumours now widely in circulation about possible developments in South China, in the North, or elsewhere.—Reuter.

COMMISSIONERS FOR
BANDIT SUPPRESSION

Nanking, May 14.

The Executive Yuan, at a meeting to-day, appointed General Liu Cheng-hua to be commissioner-in-chief for bandit suppression in Hupeh, Honan and Shensi, and General Hsu Yuan-chuan to be commissioner for bandit suppression in Hupeh.—Reuter.

MR. QUO TAI-CHI'S NEW
APPOINTMENT

Loyang, May 11.

The National Government in a mandate issued to-day appointed Mr. Quo Tai-chi, Chinese chief delegate to the Sino-Japanese armistice conference at Shanghai, as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. James.—Central News.

ADMIRAL'S RESIGNATION
REJECTED

Nanking, May 13.

The resignation of Admiral Chen Shao-kuan from his post as Minister of the Navy was rejected by the Executive Yuan at its 30th meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of President Wang Ching-wei.—Kuo Min.

CONCILIATION POLICY TO END CIVIL WAR

Nanking to Eschew Any More Expensive Military Campaigns

SPECIAL TO THE N.-C. HERALD

IN view of the conclusion of the Shanghai Agreement, the course of events in Chinese politics becomes of special interest. "The North-China Herald" was able on May 10 to obtain from a member of the National Government some illuminating views on this subject. Exceeding frankness characterised the interview. Dealing first with the relations between the Central Government and the provinces, it was pointed out that the policy of strict centralisation had been necessary for the purpose of re-organising and consolidating the Government's position. It had inevitably tended to strain relations, however, and now the time had come to reconsider the lines adopted.

The keynote of the new policy would be that of conciliation. This was essential to the avoidance of civil war which no-one wanted. So the Central Government would probably take the view that, if certain provinces or provincial groups were inclined to adopt a particularist policy, there should be no attempt to coerce them. By refusing to embark on elaborate military operations, the Government would be conserving its resources and run no risk for military action on a scale sufficient to shake the Government's own position could not be contemplated by any of its potential adversaries.

The re-organisation of the internal machinery within the areas of which the Government had undisputed control would enable the administration to rid itself of the distraction caused by friction with the outer ring of the provinces. In due time, it would conceivably create a position which would impress on those recalcitrant areas the value of closer co-operation. In short, the Government had come to the conclusion that the consolidation of the country in the political sense would be best achieved by abandonment of any idea of using force to overcome opposition.

Concentration on road construction of the practical, as opposed to the "paper" variety, is to be an important feature of the Government's programme, the Government leader continued. Within a few weeks the road under construction between Shanghai and Hangchow is expected to be completed. Another is being made between Nanking and Wuhu. The tea area is to be tapped by a road from Wuhu to Hsichow which will be finished in twelve months if all goes well. Parallel with the

for the abolition of the system whereby the soldiers look to their respective generals rather than to the National Government for their maintenance and discipline.

The policy of the Government will be to take the Shanghai Agreement as the only possible solution of the recent difficulties with Japan in Shanghai given the circumstances of which everyone is aware. Funds are to be earmarked for the rehabilitation of the war-ravaged areas in Kiangsu. The idea is to



Government's Road Project.

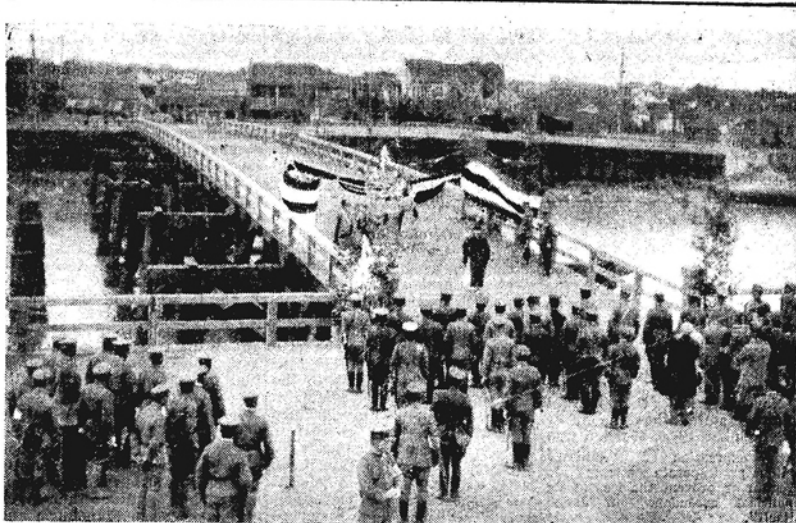
railway a road from Shanghai to Nanking is projected. Shanghai will be connected with Hangchow by a motor road, with a ferry at Minghong. In Kansu, Sian is to be linked up with Lanchow, thus making that journey accomplishable in four days instead of twenty. More funds are to be placed at the disposal of the road construction authorities in Kansu in order to facilitate the opening up of the oil fields, from which it is hoped an arrangement with commercial companies, to bring oil by pipe-line. Thus on "obviously productive" undertakings—there are gold mines in west Kansu—the Government will endeavour to spend money. A loop road will be constructed from Sian to Tungking with the dual object of preventing famine and opening up the area affected.

Industries are to be assisted. The silk trade will come first; it is proposed immediately to abolish the export duties and to clear the way for the new crop by granting subsidies at the rate of Tls. 100 a bale on last year's crop which has been held up owing to the low prices ruling overseas. This will cost the Government Tls. 2,500,000 and the effort will provide the first example of direct assistance given to a Chinese industry. Moreover the quality of the silk will be enhanced through the improvement of the eggs and educational work for the reeler.

In order to organise the army on a sound basis a great reduction of personnel will be attempted. The lessons of the recent hostilities will be applied by improving the equipment of the soldier, and decreasing the number of men in each division, which will make it possible to give regular pay and so more than compensate for the loss of man-power. This is expected eventually to put the army on a truly national basis and, in due course, pave the way

build up a true national spirit on the basis of practical recognition of facts as they are. Although the Kuomintang and its policy have been open to criticism, it is unlikely that it will be seriously menaced. It still stands as the only organised party in China, and to replace it as such is impossible. It should be possible, however, to readjust its aims with better regard for the Government's position. In the course of the next few months the Legislative Yuan and the Censorship Yuan will be thrown open to the elected representatives of non-party groups. It is proposed to set aside 50 per cent. of the seats in each of those Yans to such groups—the group franchise being more appropriate to the present state of Chinese political machinery.

Any form of purely democratic representation is out of the question because the people as a whole are not acquainted with such institutions. The so-called period of tutelage has only two or three years to run and "whether you like it or not", emphatically declared the leader, "if the Kuomintang were to be abolished there would be nothing between China and complete chaos": a programme which seeks therefore to give the substance of democratic government by genuinely throwing open the Legislative and Censorship Yans, during the interim, and at the same time to press forward with the task of preparation for the Constitutional Period need not be considered as subterfuges to perpetuate one-party rule. The general attitude of complaisance towards the Government's political opponents will not be extended to the bandits. On the whole the policy will be to eliminate banditry by social measures of reform such as have been indicated above. In Provinces, like Hupeh, which is now bandit-ridden these



NEW BRIDGE OPENED AT WOOSUNG

Photo by Nikon Dempo.

Replacing the bridge across the Woosung River which was destroyed during the recent fighting, Japanese engineers have built a new structure within 24 days. On May 13, the bridge, named "Shirakabashi," was opened with due ceremony.

measures will be reinforced by military operations conducted with due regard to the conditions prevailing. Drives will be attempted where it is held probable that permanent relief from the bandits can be achieved. For further riddance of the country reliance will be more usefully had on improved administration and better communications.

In conclusion, the view was expressed that the various rumours of approaching civil war were out of accord with the facts. There were certain politicians who were notoriously eager to keep alive threats of uprising against the Government. They did not count with the mass of the people. Some of them were less in touch with Chinese opinion than foreigners who made it their business to study conditions from a detached and liberal standpoint. The Government did not propose to do anything dramatic or to attempt the spectacular. They were confident that they had the support of the principals for whom the signatories of the Shanghai Agreement had acted. They themselves were equally behind that Agreement. They did not underestimate the enormous difficulties to be encountered but they were certainly not discouraged, when they realised that, in spite of many attempts to undermine their position, they still held the reins and were still regarded as the only possible upholders of China's prestige at home and abroad.

DISUNION IN THE SOUTH

Gen. Chen Chi-tang's Bid for Control

With the situation in the Southwest remaining obscure, efforts are being re-doubled by the Government to check a further turn of events which may tend to an open revolt. In pursuance of its conciliation policy, Nanking is endeavouring to increase its political weight, rather than to employ military force.

The present developments started with General Chen Chi-tang's desperate bid for supremacy. While trouble is brewing with the naval forces, the Kuangtung warlord has succeeded in taking over the command of the independent aviation forces, besides the management of financial and communications institutions. Plans have also been made for the reorganisation of the Kuangtung Provincial Government and also the City Government of Canton.

Political leaders here and in Nanking have dismissed the coup as an entirely local affair, which will be settled through the mediation of Mr. Hu Han-min and General Li Tsung-jen. Considerable uneasiness was, however, caused recently when General Chen and 22 other C.E.C. members, while engaged in consolidating their positions in the South, bitterly denounced the Government for the signing of the "humiliating" Shanghai Peace Agreement in a telegram sent to Nanking.

In spite of the recent Nanking-Canton peace conference which was called to ensure internal unity, Kuangtung has so far remained independent of the Government. The Southwestern Political Committee has not yet been abolished, while General Chen Chi-tang has so far declined all Government appointments. The attitude of the Kuangtung generals, which draws much pub-

lic attention in view of the developments in the South, is not yet determined. General Han Fu-chu, Chairman of the Shantung Provincial Government, and Marshal Feng Yu-hsiang, who is recuperating in Tai-an, are both reticent over the Kuangtung coup, though rumours have been circulated to the effect that Marshal Feng has been requested by General Chen Chi-tang to leave for Canton immediately.

With the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese peace agreement, envoys have been despatched by Nanking to Shantung and Shanghai, explaining the text of the pact as well as seeking views of the Kuangtung

DROP IN CHINESE CUSTOMS REVENUE

Nanking, May 13.

It is officially announced by the Ministry of Finance that Customs revenue for the first four months of the year totalled Shanghai taels 61,847,918.64 as against Shanghai taels 82,443,990.22 for the same period last year—a shortage of Shanghai taels 20,596,071.58.—Kuo Min.

It was first intended by the Government to hold a conference at Hangchow between General Chiang Kai-shek, Mr. Wang Ching-wei and Mr. Sun Fo and others to iron out differences, but present indications are that the conference will not materialise. Efforts are, however, being continued by the Government for a reconciliation with Mr. Sun Fo and the Kuangtung leaders.

Though the situation in the Southwest is still regarded as obscure, further developments, which are to clarify the attitude of the Southwestern generals, are expected. General Chen Chi-tang, according to telegraphic information received here, has ordered a halt to bandit-suppression activities in the neighbouring provinces, and the commanders of various divisions under him have been summoned to attend a military conference on Sunday. Generals Li Tsung-jen and Pei Chung-hsi, commanders of the Kuangtung troops, have also been asked to attend.

According to the latest reports from the south, General Li Tsung-jen has decided to assume the post of Commander-in-Chief of the 9th Route Army, offered to him by the Government. General Li, the report says, will appoint General Pei Chung-hsi as Field Commander of the bandit-suppression troops. Both are to assume their Government posts on Sunday.

Representatives of General Chen Chi-tang are at present at Kuellin, attempting to persuade the Kuangtung generals to join his party. The two generals are reported to be reticent over the Kuangtung affair, but expressed the view that should the Shanghai Peace Agreement be detrimental to China, they would lead an army against Nanking.

While General Chang Hui-chang, commander of the independent aviation forces, was visiting Mr. Sun Fo here, steps were taken by General Chen Chi-tang for the taking over his command. This decision was first reached on April 28 at a secret meeting, but the order of the Southwestern Political Committee for the abolition of the Headquarters of the Independent

Aviation Forces was given on May 3.

The order was carried out with little resistance, as there existed internal dissension among the commanders of the various squadrons. Upon General Chang Hui-chang's arrival at Hongkong, the aviation forces had practically been reorganised and put under the command of the First Group Army, of which General Chen Chi-tang is the commander.

The Southwestern Political Committee was attended by Messrs. Tang Shao-yi, Tsou Lu, Fu Ping-chang and Liu Chi-wen, Dr. C. C. Wu, General Chen Chi-tang and many others. Among the resolutions passed were that the financial and communications institutions should be put under the supervision of the Provincial Government, and that the command of the naval squadron should be taken over by the First Group Army.

When the Headquarters of the Aviation Forces was occupied by General Chen's forces, an order was issued by General Chen simultaneously to concentrate all cruisers and warships near Canton. Admiral Chan Chak, who was duly informed of the reorganisation of the aviation forces, had by then completed preparations and ordered several of his cruisers to Hainan, where a naval base was subsequently established.

Mediation between General Chen Chi-tang and Admiral Chan Chak has so far proved a failure, and it is reported that an expeditionary force will be despatched to Hainan Island for "bandit-suppression." Meanwhile Admiral Chan, in a statement issued to the press, declared his adherence to the Central Government and described the action of General Chen Chi-tang as "outrageous."

Gen. Chen Pledges Loyalty

Nanking, May 12.

It is announced that Mr. Wang Ching-wei received an urgent telegram to-day from General Chen Chi-tang and another from Generals Li Tsung-jen and Pei Chung-hsi expressing their satisfaction with the settlement of the Shanghai conflict and pledging their fullest and most loyal support for the Central Government.

The telegrams, it is stated, should dissipate all disquieting rumours regarding the situation in south China.—Reuter.

UTILISING CHINA'S WATER POWER

Nanking, May 11.

The Ministry of Industries is planning to develop China's water power, which is estimated at a total of 20,000,000 horse power, if properly utilised.

A Committee of experts has been appointed to study the problem, and it is believed that the Ministry will attempt to develop the project first at Ichang.—Reuter.

Nanking, May 14.—An echo of the alleged persecution of Chinese nationals in Mexico last year was heard to-day when the Executive Yuan approved an appropriation of \$50,000 towards the evacuation of Chinese residents in Mexico to the United States. The money will be sent to the Chinese Legation at Washington for disbursement.

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A GRIM DILEMMA

May 17.

The terrible tragedy in Tokyo should effectually remove the scales from the eyes of those who have considered the Manchurian and Shanghai episodes purely in the light of Chinese shortcomings. In summing up the events in Manchuria at the end of November last, this journal definitely stated that the affair of September 18 at Mukden was "the expression of a military clique's desperate attempt to regain or prevent the loss of its political ascendancy in Japan itself."

How poignantly pertinent is that conclusion to-day! Deep sympathy has been felt for many weeks with the able statesmen who have been endeavouring to ride the whirlwind of their militarists' reckless commitments. An active censorship has supported an intensely patriotic, if abortive attempt to maintain a united national front on foreign affairs. A succession of assassinations, aimed against the progressive elements in high places, was ascribed to every cause but that which the informed observer only too sadly perceived. Supporting those sinister crimes was the pressure brought to bear on the civil administration and important business interests with the object of removing any hindrance to militarist ambitions. Japanese officials, who had won recognition for their broad vision and acute perception of the obligations of international intercourse, were conveniently transferred to comparatively unimportant spheres of action or so muzzled that their own sense of national pride prevented the free expression of their views. It says much for the heroic spirit of Japanese liberalism that, even in such circumstances, plain-speaking was occasionally discernible. By a tragic coincidence there has just been published—it is reviewed in another column to-day—a remarkable book, circulated here by the Japanese Consulate, containing a bold criticism of the militarists and commended by the Prime Minister whose martyrdom now awakes the sympathy of the whole world for the Japanese people.

Looking back a year ago to the state of things in Manchuria and Shanghai, who can seriously pretend that they betokened a situation which could not be handled with the use of diplomatic weapons? The process would be slow, exasperating and, perhaps, uncertain. It could not have introduced greater complications and graver dangers than the action taken, both at Mukden and Shanghai, by the imperfectly controlled Japanese military and naval commands. The Japanese Government was compelled in September to abdicate to the General Staff. It made a gallant effort to mask the abdication. In Shanghai it succeeded in no small measure, helped by world-opinion and the League, to assert some form of control, after the original blunder had spent itself. Putting the case for the militarists in its best light it may be said that, convinced of the dangers to be encountered by the maintenance of a liberal policy, under a semi-democratic form of government, in the difficult economic conditions prevalent the world over, they believed that by the dramatic assertion of their armed argument in Manchuria and, as accumulating difficulties demanded it, in Shanghai, they would win the confidence of the Japanese nation and restore its fortunes. They failed in the essential factor for success—a

quick and unmistakable solution of the issue. In Manchuria they have had to proceed from one repudiation of their originally declared intentions to another. They have stirred up against them in the field forces far in excess of the hostility against which they professed to move in September. They have aggravated their difficulties by the intervention in Shanghai. It failed in its immediate object; it also stimulated the opposition to them in Manchuria, where, by the desperate expedient of setting up a Japanese Government in Chinese dress, they are hoping to find salvation.

Mr. Tsuyoshi Inukai has paid the penalty for these mistakes which, by his own policy, he tried so earnestly to repair. The consequences of this climax to the campaign of military terrorism in Japan cannot at this juncture be ascertained. The prospect of the establishment of an unveiled military dictatorship cannot be safely dismissed. Mr. Takahashi has become Acting Prime Minister. He will be able to command the profound sympathy of every sane exponent of the principles of decent government. His difficulties will be enormous. The resignations of the heads of the fighting services are in accord with recognised convention. It may be doubted whether they will be accepted. Nor would it be perhaps desirable that they should. The Navy and War Ministers are men of ability with considerable influence over the elements which are so dangerous to Japan's stability at the moment. Whether they have themselves been the victims of an uncontrollable movement among the middle ranks of the services or whether they have insufficiently discouraged that movement is a matter of conjecture. They can hardly be blind to the fact that, taking the broad view, the events of the last few months have seriously shaken the confidence of the Japanese people in naval and military policy. They may be so committed to that policy that its extension to the domination of the Government internally may seem to them the only possible course. The key seems to lie in the extent to which the liberal elements in Japanese politics are strong enough to withstand this militarist threat without exposing the country to the fatal influence of communist revolutionaries. The world, will anxiously watch and sympathetically wait while Japan faces this grim dilemma. It has reason to be hopeful for the sterling qualities of Japanese patriotism, self-respect and fortitude have long been admired and acclaimed.

SPADEWORK

May 16.

There is danger of confusion over the proposal mooted in more quarters than one for a Round Table Conference on the Shanghai problem. Tokyo messages suggest that the Japanese Government have again made that proposal and that it rests on the resolution passed by the Assembly of the League of Nations on March 4. Yet neither that resolution, nor the Council's plan of February 29, to which it refers, nor the Assembly's Resolution of March 11, which reaffirmed the resolution of March 4, bound any party to the creation of a Round Table Conference. The only Conference contemplated was that which recently brought to a successful issue the negotiations for the withdrawal of Japanese troops and the signature of an agreement between the Chinese and Japanese authorities in regard to the situation in Shanghai. China is definitely committed in one respect for she entered into that conference

"on the basis that the safety and integrity of the International Settlement and French Concessions must be preserved under arrangements which will secure these areas and their residents from danger."

It can hardly be pretended that, although a Round Table Con-

ference might conceivably be invoked to carry out this requirement, the use of such an instrument is implicit in the agreement. Indeed it has been understood that the Japanese and Chinese views on this Round Table Conference are diametrically opposed. Japan wishes to confine its deliberations to Shanghai. China refuses to discuss Shanghai as a separate issue from Manchuria. If the Tokyo proposal means that Japan wishes for a Conference on Shanghai with the other Powers, excluding China, it plainly would not be a conference in the full sense of the term as used elsewhere, even assuming that the suggestion met with approval. It seems more likely that Mr. Yoshizawa's conversation was mainly concerned with the situation as created by the recent Japanese decision to withdraw the Expeditionary Force.

The idea of a Conference on Sino-Foreign relations generally was put forward in these columns on October 5. Since then much has happened in Manchuria and Shanghai. Sino-Foreign Relations in certain aspects, have come under exhaustive review. The course of events has not necessarily weakened the case for a Conference. It has perhaps made a Conference eventually inevitable but the time and conditions of such a Conference are not, by any means, clearly determined. In China a highly involved political situation—to which Manchurian and Shanghai happenings have heavily contributed—has made it impossible at the moment to attempt any discussions calculated to impose on a much-embarassed Government of China special and detailed responsibility for the future. Other interested countries are visibly overburdened with economic and political issues of far-reaching international urgency. The League of Nations has taken upon itself, with the concurrence of all parties, the task of mediation. One part of that task is in the process of execution by the League's instrument, the Lytton Commission. This all means that much spadework still to be accomplished before the idea of a Conference can be brought upon the plane of actuality. There may be unanimity in approving of the idea; there is great diversity of view regarding the form it should take.

It seems that here representative bodies in Shanghai can usefully direct their energies. They may have—perhaps are bound to have—their own special plans but plans are not so important, at the moment, as the establishment of authority for their sponsorship. On this problem of Shanghai there are extremists on both sides. They are not to be regarded as negligible merely because they are extremists. They both have definite contributions to make to the discussion. The presentation of their views individually cannot help on the process of formal discussion. It is necessary for them to endeavour as a preliminary precaution to get into touch and informally exchange opinions with the possible object of finding a common denominator. This applies as much to the internal adjustment of views within apparently homogeneous groups, as to the exterior reconciliation of views held by the various groups in their corporate entity. The gradual return to normality in Shanghai can proceed quietly under existing conditions, provided the obligations implied or expressed in the Shanghai Agreement are faithfully observed. It will be recognised, however, that there must be some definite rehabilitation in due course, if Shanghai interests are to be protected as desired by Chinese and foreigners alike. The chief need is for a rapprochement on terms which sufficiently take into account the basic principles of the problem. The introduction into the discussion of factors which should be susceptible of adjustment by purely local negotiation is to be deprecated. And the events of the last few months here should

be studied in less particularist mood. There is a tendency to deduce from them only arguments which support previously held convictions. It is not yet realised by many that those events have in themselves created new conditions which effectually prevent the return to the status quo in the full sense of the term. This is an advantage to the common good, if sage direction of policy can be achieved. It certainly strengthens the case for an eventual conference but that must depend largely on the extent to which the various interests concerned are prepared to take off their coats and set their spades to work. And, by spadework is not meant the mere activity of the propagandist but the steady assimilation of divergent points of view with the object of giving the conference for discussion the vital essentials of the problem.

RECONSTRUCTION

May 11.

The sensible idea that the Government at Nanking should devote themselves to the task of reconstruction rather than to the encouragement of wildly distracting dreams of military aggressiveness seems to be commending itself to influential quarters here. This gives added point to the suggestions thrown out by Mr. S. F. Mayers at the annual meeting of the China Association last month. This journal some time ago pointed out that China's recourse to the machinery of the League opened up possibilities of which valuable service might be made. Mr. Mayers usefully followed along those lines; he pointed out that the League had been able to respond to China's request for advisory help in several directions. He showed how expansion of this policy could be made with the object of securing that expert assistance without which plans for reconstruction would lack the confidence of the people and the driving force necessary to success. Recourse to the League is no new idea in Western countries; it has been adopted by several not altogether without success. China herself has no reason to be dissatisfied with some of the assistance already commanded from Geneva. The views of responsible Chinese, as gleaned by this journal's special correspondent in the Yangtze Valley showed that foreign intervention in this modern guise, more conformable as it would be with the current conceptions of China's international position, would be welcomed and, indeed, was regarded as virtually essential.

This does not imply a desire to pour a flood of experts on this country from the West or from the East. From some points of view it seems highly desirable that, before taking counsel with the League, China should consider the possibility of properly using the foreign experts already available in her service. Moreover a League Commission which travels with experts in every variety of speciality may be more of a nuisance than a help. It skims lightly over the area in a few weeks or so, produces a portentous report and then leaves China to her fate, with perhaps the privilege of having found round holes in which a few square pegs dropped from visiting party can find an uncomfortable lodging. This does not apply, of course, to a special *ad hoc* Commission such as that now functioning in Manchuria. It is limited to a body which has been sent to solve China's domestic problems and to provide for the future rather than to determine the exact significance of certain events. The need for foreign experts must be adjudged by China and their employment, in a permanent capacity at all events, must rest on the will of the Government. Advisory experts should not be in the position of those Advisory Committees waggishly defined as bodies whose advice is never taken. The difficulty in the past has lain in the fact that the em-

ployment of these advisers has either been too exposed to the political vicissitudes of Treaty rights or been hampered by faulty methods of selection.

Generally speaking the foreign experts who merely comes for a brief visit of investigation and report should be chosen from the most authoritative type. He should be able to give a broad appreciation of the situation, to prescribe remedies and to depart with the knowledge that real efforts will be made to follow the prescription. For the day to day tutelage to which Mr. Mayers referred it will be necessary to recruit experts, as to a permanent civil service, under contracts which will be duly honoured. The League can be of definite use in selecting such experts, for then there will be no suggestion that the choice is concerned with the diplomatic relations of any particular foreign Power. Frankness demands the admission that this is an important point. Only a deaf man can reside in China long without being aware of the disappointments—to use no stronger term—to which the foreign employees of some departments of the Chinese Government or of semi-public Chinese undertakings have been exposed. There is a great need to restore the confidence of the foreigner in the stability of service in China. That is where the League might give China useful assistance. The violation of a contract with a foreign expert, appointed in consultation with the League, would or should be readily remedied by reason of the terms established between China and the League of which she is a member. It is vital for China to obtain experts of undoubted integrity and worth. To do this mutual confidence must be created. It can hardly be said that such confidence is easily established in the face of the difficulties experienced by foreign employees in the past. It is necessary only to point to certain railway lines and, in particular, the scandal of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company to exemplify this criticism. It will rightly be contended that the League can hardly take retrospective cognisance of this. The Chinese Government will, perchance, realise that, in recourse to foreign expert guidance, the goodwill of foreign opinion is an asset of the first importance. There are obvious difficulties in the way of righting past wrongs but, in a certain measure, they are not insuperable. Nothing could be more appropriate to the policy of contact with the League than the effort to redeem obligations the neglect of which has certainly lost China friends and potential helpers. This is no sentimental view but the hard, practical evaluation of the much-needed process of introducing foreign tutelage for the benefit of China's administration under the auspices of the League. It might be attempted, too, by the decision to make fuller and better use of those foreign experts who have already accepted and are proud to accept service in China.

CONCILIATION

May 12.

That was a good statement of policy which was made to the "North-China Daily News" on Tuesday by a member of the National Government. Refusal to be drawn into violent conflict with dissenting provincial groups has obvious merits in the light of prevalent financial and political conditions. Paradoxically—and paradoxes flourish exceedingly in this topsy-turvy world—the Government thus derives strength from weakness. Practical, too, is the determination to attempt no far-flung control at the moment, but rather to limit concentrated activities to the areas in which effective Government leadership can be asserted. The road policy, allied with that of assisting industry, may do much, provided the schemes can be faithfully converted from the project to the completed work. By adopting this attitude which presents

opposition groups with the difficulty of fighting their own shadows, the Government can at least claim freedom from the criticism that it is accentuating the disunity of the country. The main obstacles in the way of making such a policy effective appear to lie in the inveterate recalcitrance of certain political schools of thought; it may be so persistent as to set impossibly narrow limits on the scope for the Government's good intentions. It will be noted too that financial resources must play an important part in the undertaking. Not less vital is the question of the handling of those resources, in regard to which recent action by the Banking community here shows that no little uneasiness exists. Hope for improvement is to be found in the response made by the Government to the Bankers' requests for the stabilisation of the service of the Domestic Bonds. It may also be entertained, with all due reserve, in the proposed introduction of an electoral element—to the extent of 50 per cent.—into the Legislative and Censorship Yuans, for that does, in some degree, meet the recent objections to the dominance of the Kuomintang. Reservation is necessary because, in spite of the professed desire of the Government, the new elected members may not be altogether independent of Kuomintang support, although, by the adoption of a group franchise, this disability may be largely avoided.

The Government has declared its belief that the Shanghai Agreement is the only possible solution of the problem raised by Japanese intervention here. It is to be hoped that this belief will be supported by the steady fulfilment of the obligations under the Agreement by both sides. It cannot be said that the reported activities of the anti-Japanese associations give encouragement to the hope. The spirit of the Shanghai Agreement and, indeed, the validity of Chinese acceptance, through the Mayor of Greater Shanghai, of the terms which included suppression of anti-Japanese associations, demands scrupulous attention to this point. The policy of conciliation which the Government proposes to apply to its relations with the outer ring of Provinces will be stultified if the improvement of Sino-Japanese relations is not sedulously pursued. In this respect it is bootless to draw a distinction between officially-supported and private boycotts. The pressure brought to bear on traders gives rise to illegal actions, of which an apt, if trivial, illustration is given elsewhere to-day. Illegal acts can and must be prevented by the Government and, in the sincere desire to clear the way for rehabilitation of the national resources, the authorities representing the Government cannot afford to neglect this obvious duty. It can hardly be too strongly emphasised that the Shanghai Agreement implies serious acceptance of the cultivation of normal relations with the Japanese. This cannot be attained if bodies of Chinese opinion are to be permitted unchecked to flaunt the old battle-cries which, rightly or wrongly, incited Japanese action. It will be recognised that the Government cannot take measures precipitately but undue delay may inspire the belief among the delinquents that they can pursue their unruly courses with impunity. Promptness in attention to this menace from within is exceedingly desirable and, in no sense, inconsistent with the conciliatory purpose of the Government's main policy—rather it is essential to the establishment of that policy.

Appreciation of the gravity of the problems with which the Government has to grapple will impel avoidance of captious criticism on this and other points. No good purpose is served, however, by glossing over them. It may be said with some justice that the statement which was published yesterday showed unmistakable signs of a greater grasp of realities than has al-

ways been discernible in Nanking. The delegates at the Shanghai Conference could not have succeeded if they had evaded realities and, as they had the full support of the Government, their experience has been handed on with, it is to be hoped, salutary results. The spokesmen for the Government have of late shown commendable courage in countering the reckless assertions of their opponents. If this attitude is taken to inform the direction of the new policy now in the process of adoption, there is reason to believe that the hopes of its authors will be realised to a greater degree than may be felt possible at this juncture. The Government is or should not be blind to the Kuomintang's loss of prestige. It may be on sound ground in refusing to proceed on any other lines than those of gradual control or reform of the Kuomintang from within. In so marshalling its political strength, it will presumably endeavour on its own account to regain confidence at home and abroad. In some respects it is more favourable placed in that regard than at any time in recent months. It has proved that alternatives to it are difficult to find. It has shown that its possession of experience is no empty boast. From a difficult situation it has attracted to itself the sympathetic attention of the outside world. In its efforts therefore to set its house in order by the conciliatory method it will be sure to command encouragement. Those efforts should include the application of that method to foreign relationships. There past history has been calamitous. If, for example, by the drastic revision of school text-books, the young generation in China could at once be protected against the danger of acquiring patriotic nationalism through the medium of antagonism to the stranger within its gates, a most valuable aid to conciliation will have been secured. For, so long as that perversion of infant and adolescent minds continues, so long will unreasoning opposition to the Government be based on the cult of hatred thus engendered.

A DRAMATIC STROKE

May 13.

The curse of political discussion nowadays is the insistence by a cynical generation on the paramount virtue of the adage: "things are not always what they seem." So machiavellian motives are discerned in the simplest actions of statesmen and nations. It would require the eloquence of an archangel to explain actions without being accused of keeping some sinister intention in the background. So the announcement from Tokyo that the whole of the Japanese Expeditionary Force is to be withdrawn from Shanghai within a month is likely to receive varying interpretations. Yet, it would probably be wiser, as well as fairer to the Japanese Government, to take the decision at its face value. After considering all the consequences of the events since January last, the Government at Tokyo might well come to the conclusion that the retention of a large body of troops in Shanghai, over and above the normal needs of Japanese interests, as understood before the recent trouble, would tend to accentuate the financial and political difficulties of Japan and, indeed, obstruct a speedy reconciliation with China. This view would also be consistent with the feeling that world-opinion could not otherwise be convinced of the sincerity of Japanese denials of territorial ambitions in the Shanghai area. It must at least be recognised that this step betokens the possession at Tokyo of considerable courage, for it means in effect the restoration of the *status quo*, leaving out of account the actual disturbance of the political equilibrium and the damage caused by the action which it reverses.

Japan can claim that she has acted here without definite

pressure from the League of Nations. She has responded to the League's implicit opinions but she has made this gesture of her own free will and deserves credit accordingly. The League will clearly be under the obligation to ensure that, so far as its resources permit, the withdrawal does not impede the clarification of the situation here. Return to normality is Shanghai's pressing need. Its attainment is essential, too, to the facilitation of China's own efforts to bring about some semblance of ordered administration. It will be incumbent on the Chinese authorities, on their side, to see that the opportunity of vindicating their ability to establish better relations with foreigners and a firmer solicitude for fair treatment of foreign interests is fully seized. They will realise, no doubt, that any action which can be said seriously to justify the apprehensions of such Japanese as are uneasy about the withdrawal is to be sedulously avoided. Indeed, immediate consideration should be given to measures calculated to put out of the question a renewed resort by Japan to the armed argument which has been so disastrous for all parties concerned. It will be realised that, should such a catastrophe occur, it would be impossible to set a limit to its consequences.

The development of events in Shanghai will tend towards smooth recovery of the previous confidence between the various communities which go to make up this great international City. Foreigners can be trusted, in their own interests, to apply their energies and goodwill to such an endeavour. Suspicions which have had far too free play of late had better be relegated to the background, if not entirely quashed. The observance of the terms of the Shanghai Agreement, under the paternal supervision of the Joint Commission, will be watched with much anxiety. Both Chinese and Japanese would do well to refrain too readily to jump to conclusions on the basis of what may be accidental or ephemeral happenings. Foreigners can help greatly by encouraging the genius of goodwill to find as free an outlet as possible. They naturally must feel that, in the last few months, a stunning blow has been delivered against a security which their efforts in cooperation with the Chinese has made possible. They will be inclined to the view that too much reliance can be placed on the gradual return to normality as a solution in itself. Recognising the difficulties here and, more particularly in other parts of a preoccupied world, they will not abandon their patience. They look, however, to the Powers closely interested in Shanghai to take care lest patience be allowed to degenerate into a policy of drift. That is why they may be expected, in due course, to urge that the possibility of taking the future of Shanghai into active consideration with the consent of the Chinese Government should not be consigned irrevocably to the pigeon-holes wherein bluebooks accumulate dust and policies moulder. Japan has stimulated this thought by her present action. China can honourably entertain it as the outcome of her resort to the League and her own appreciation of the problems before her.

A FOUL MURDER

May 14.

The whole world will be shocked by the news that Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh's baby son was murdered apparently on the night when he disappeared from his cot, and the whole world will sympathise with the parents in this terrible wrong which has been done them. Murder at all times is a foul thing, but the villainous of this particular outrage, the slaying of an innocent child and the tantalising of his mother and father by hopes that ultimately he would be returned to them is about as black a deed

as can well be imagined by mentalities which are not criminally sick. On the evidence as it appears in another column the baby was stolen from its bed, taken some distance from the house and killed. A note left behind suggested that the little one was merely held for ransom and for over two months the unfortunate parents have been buoyed up to expect his restoration to their care when negotiations with the kidnappers had reached a successful conclusion. The countersign given in the note suggests that those acting on behalf of Colonel Lindbergh were in touch with those responsible for the kidnapping and murder, though the possibility should not be overlooked that others might have been seeking to wrest a substantial sum from the distracted parents by false pretences. It is here that further complication arises in a case which calls for the most thorough investigation, not only for the purpose of discovering those guilty of this horrible crime, but also those who sought to secure a monetary advantage from the parents.

There will be some difficulty, undoubtedly, in bringing those persons to book who are responsible for this brutal murder. The trail has been considerably blurred by investigations which were dictated by the belief that the child was alive. The scent has grown cold during the two months that all manner of pourparlers were proceeding with people who either knew the child was dead or did not care one way or the other so long as the father and mother could be deluded into parting with ransom. There is reason to believe that the \$50,000 paid over about a month after the child disappeared went into the pockets of a gang of tricksters, ground to support the opinion that neither Colonel Lindbergh or his various go-betweens were ever in touch with the person or persons who entered his house, stole his child and killed it on a lonely mountainside. And as a result the crime has adopted a complexion much different from that of the senseless murder of an innocent. This may, however, assist the authorities to the extent of inducing them to investigate whether there were any person or persons whose desires for revenge upon the parents led to the murder, for it seems clear that the theft of the child was not for the purpose of kidnapping, but the prelude to what appears to have been a callous well-thought-out murder.

It is to be hoped that national sympathy with the bereaved parents will create a sentiment in favour of drastic measures for the cleaning up of the situation with regard to crime in the United States. That the authorities are hampered by a police system which has just grown with the country, subject so often to political pressure, and at times to the successful operations of the underworld must be clear to all observers. This case, however, points forcibly to the necessity of the Federal State authorities doing something to vindicate themselves in the apprehension of what appears to be two sets of criminals, the murderer or murderers and those guilty of obtaining or attempting to obtain money under false pretences. The use of minions of the underworld to endeavour to effect something which the police could not effect—nor in fact could anyone else—was a counsel of desperation. It is not easy to attach any blame to the distracted parents that they adopted such a course. But the need for any further tender consideration of the guilty in this case has disappeared; there is no further necessity for considering of conditional offers of assistance from the barons of the underworld, and it is to be hoped that the authorities will prosecute their investigations to a successful conclusion, not so much for the purpose of revenge as for the vindication of the rule of law and the deterring of others from similar attempts.

A CENTENARY

May 13.

A century ago to-day France mourned the loss of a great naturalist and scientist in the person of Georges Cuvier. His death left the country richer by a large number of books dealing with such subjects as the comparative anatomy of animals, both in living and fossilised forms; treatises on the systematic arrangement of the fish kingdom, and various studies on the structure and classification of shell fish. His works represent a vast field of research and are the result of a life time spent in study and investigation. Noted for his marvellous memory and capacity for profound and detailed study of natural phenomena, Cuvier began his career as a lecturer at the National Institute, and in 1796, the year of its foundation, read his first palaeontological paper. Later he became professor of natural history at the *College de France*, and was subsequently appointed perpetual secretary of the National Institute in the department of physical and natural sciences. This appointment may be regarded as a stepping stone to his brilliant career in scientific research; from that time he specialised in three main lines of enquiry—one dealing with the structure of mollusca, the second with the classification of fishes, and the third with fossil mammals and reptiles.

A large portion of Cuvier's work appeared in published form during his life time. One of the best known of his works was the *Histoire naturel des Poissons*, which contains descriptions of 5,000 different species of fishes. The results of his palaeontological and geological investigations were ultimately given to the world in the form of two separate works; one of these is the celebrated *Recherche sur les ossements fossiles de quadrupèdes*, and the other is his *Discours sur les révolutions de la surface du globe*. But none of his books attained a higher reputation than his *Règne animal distribué d'après son organisation*; a classical work in nine volumes in which Cuvier embodied the results of the whole of his researches on the structure of living and fossilised animals. Cuvier supplemented his three primary works with numerous papers, a great many memoirs dealing in specialised branches of his studies, and a number of smaller volumes which to this day are used for purposes of reference.

Apart from his own original investigations, Cuvier, with the tireless energy that is his most memorable characteristic, carried out a vast amount of work in his capacity as secretary and in connection with public education generally. In 1803 he was placed by Napoleon upon the council of the Imperial University and he presided over various commissions of inquiry which were sent to outlying districts of France during the reign of the Emperor. In the latter part of his career Cuvier was elected chancellor of the University, and towards the end of his life he rose to the exalted position of president of the committee of the interior. France recognised the valuable constructive qualities of his work and his position remained unaffected by the fall of Napoleon and the restoration of the Bourbons. His genius may be said to have found its reward during his life time, for on May 13, 1832, Cuvier died not only a great naturalist, but a peer of France and a grand officer of the Legion d'Honneur besides.

AN ELECTION COMEDY

May 17.

A brief Reuter message at the time announced that Sir Basil Blackett standing as an Independent Conservative, with very influential support, had been defeated by 1,000 votes by Captain Cunningham-Reid who had been adopted as Conservative candidate by the local Constitutional Union in circumstances which led eventually to the resignation of the Union's Chairman and his adherence to

the side of Sir Basil Blackett. At the last election Sir Rennell Rodd polled 39,976 votes against his Labour opponent's 6,147. The total number of votes amassed by Captain Cunningham-Reid and Sir Basil was 22,321, so it will be seen that the electorate was with difficulty stirred from the apathy doubly induced by the similarity of the candidates' party labels and the natural reaction in a bye-election fought so soon after an exceptionally strenuous General Election. It may indeed be surmised that the personal issues piquantly evoked by the split in Conservative opinion were the only factors calculated to encourage the good resident of that very Conservative constituency to trouble to record his vote. Yet, remembering the vivid scenes at the St. George's bye-election when Lady Diana Cooper, braving the wrath of the Press Peers, magnificently brought her husband back to the House of Commons, St. Marylebone might have attempted to rival that historic episode. But the Press Lords were not interested; Mr. Baldwin remained neutral and Lady Diana Cooper was engaged in drawing London to admire her Madonna at the Lyceum.

Broadly Captain Cunningham-Reid's claim to support rested on his narrowly-secured adoption by the local Constitutional Union in preference to Sir Basil Blackett. He evidently bid for the right-wing Conservatism of St. Marylebone, just as Sir Basil laid stress on his ability to command Liberal votes. But the real interest in the election was the question whether the qualifications of a candidate, in the bigger sense of the term, ought to be allowed to dominate local valuations. Generally it may be stated that Sir Basil, with a very distinguished career to his record, was championed on the ground that his entry into the House of Commons would provide the Government with a notable recruit. It is hardly necessary to mention the overwhelming importance of such issues as the Government's currency policy and the War Debts to illustrate the validity of that view. Sir Basil's directorship of the Bank of England, his Chairmanship of the Imperial Communications Board, his knowledge of British financial relations with America, to say nothing of his Treasury and Indian experience, marked him as a candidate of far more weight than his younger, if estimable, opponent.

But the battle was not to the strong. St. Marylebone preferred the local choice, although mighty warriors in the political sense and men and women of eminence rallied round Sir Basil. From the national point of view, this was a minor tragedy; it cannot be described in any stronger term for, presumably, Sir Basil will soon find a seat, now that his readiness to merge himself in the House of Commons is known to the Conservatives. There is no reason why he should suffer the fate of Sir William Jowitt for his political record is clear. Nor could it be seriously suggested that Captain Cunningham-Reid's ingenuous pretensions to election on the ground of his youth would be a bar to Sir Basil in another constituency. The whole affair is really an example of characteristic independence on the part of a British constituency. St. Marylebone felt, rightly or wrongly, that it was being dictated to by outside influences encamped on the plane of superiority. It had no animus against Sir Basil; it had the feeling that it would give its support to David instead of Goliath. The Conservative vote in the House of Commons is not affected and, before long, Captain Cunningham-Reid may have the pleasure of greeting Sir Basil in the lobby.

This Shanghai Fukienese Residents Association has addressed telegrams to the Central Government and to the military leaders of Kwangtung, Chekiang and Fukien appealing to them to send troops to subdue the Communist bandits who are menacing Fukien Province.

NEWS FROM THE OUTPORTS

JAPAN'S PREMIER MURDERED

Series of Outrages Against High Government Officials

Tokyo, May 15.

THE Premier, Mr. Tsuyoshi Inukai, was critically wounded in an attempted assassination that occurred almost simultaneously with a series of outrages perpetrated against high Government officials and financial leaders this afternoon.

It is reported that Mr. Inukai's condition is serious, but his physicians hold out some hope. The attack upon the Premier took place at his official residence at Nagata-machi, Tokyo, and the assailants were all officers of the Japanese Army and Navy.

Six men participated in the attempt upon the Premier's life, including a first lieutenant and a sub-lieutenant of the Navy and four Army officers of undetermined rank and a sergeant-major. They drove up to the official residence in an automobile and demanded an immediate interview with the Premier, who was receiving a visitor in the drawing room.

One of the bodyguards of the Premier was suspicious of the sextette and advised the statesman to retire to another room, but Mr. Inukai refused to accept this warning and ordered that the visitors be admitted.

Immediately upon entering the drawing room, the visitors whipped out revolvers. One of the Army officers seized the Premier by one shoulder and swung him about to face the men who trooped in after him, ordering the others to shoot.

Two shots took effect. One struck the Premier on the left side of the head, near the temple, and the other pierced his nose.

Dr. Aoyama, of the Imperial University Hospital, rushed to the Premier's official residence and rendered emergency treatment before taking the wounded official to hospital. According to Dr. Aoyama, Mr. Inukai's wounds are serious, but there is a possibility of saving his life. Difficulty in staunching the flow of blood from the wound in the temple is causing the gravest concern.

All of those participating in the attack upon the Premier surrendered to the police immediately after the outrages.

The attack upon the Premier took place at 5.20 p.m. and at virtually the same moment three other outrages were perpetrated in widely separated sections of Tokyo.

An unknown person threw two hand grenades into the home of Count Makino, the Keeper of the Privy Seal. One of these grenades exploded, but the other was a dud. Owing to the strict censorship being enforced, it has been impossible to obtain any information as to whether or not any of the occupants of Count Makino's household sustained injuries or as to the damage caused.

At the same moment, 5.20 o'clock, a young man wearing a gray overcoat thrust a pistol through a window of the central headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Board and fired one shot at a high police official. The explosion threw the police station into an uproar and officers swarmed out of the building by the dozen.

Instead of fleeing at once, the youth opened fire upon the police. One policeman was wounded, while another bullet struck a newspaperman. It is understood that both victims' wounds are serious.

Simultaneously, an attack was made upon the headquarters of the Seiyukai, the Government Party. Two bombs were thrown into the building occupied by the Seiyukai organisation.

It is reported that Lieut.-Gen. Sadao Araki, the War Minister, and Admiral Mined Onsumi, Minister of the Navy, have submitted their resignations, but confirmation is lacking from official sources.

The two Ministers, it is understood, hold themselves responsible for the outbreak of the startling series of outrages here this afternoon in one of which the Premier Mr. Tsuyoshi Inukai, was critically wounded.

Two police officers name Hiramatsu and Kawada, assigned to duty as the special bodyguards of the Premier also were shot in the attack upon the statesman. Both were seriously wounded. Hiramatsu was shot in the chest, while one bullet struck Kawada in the abdomen.

Police went into action swiftly and by 10.30 o'clock to-night all of the officials of the Procuratorial Office also had been mobilised to direct the investigation of the outrages, including the Public Prosecutor-General, who has taken personal charge of the inquiry.

The police activity immediately began to show results and late this evening three motor trucks fully loaded with prisoners were driven into the Gendarmerie Headquarters, all of those arrested being suspected

or actually charged with complicity in the day's outrages.

Extra guards have been thrown around the homes of Cabinet members and other high officials and 150 infantrymen of the Imperial Guard Division are on duty at Gendarmerie Headquarters.

Later.

Two more bomb outrages have occurred since the simultaneous outbreak at 5.20 and another high Government official has been attacked.

All of the incidents, apparently, have been perpetrated by soldiers. Several bombs were thrown into the Tokyo municipal electric plant.

PREMIER DEAD

Tokyo, May 15.

(Midnight)

The Premier, Mr. Inukai, died at midnight. Mr. Takahashi, the Minister of Finance, has been appointed Acting-Premier. —United Press.

at Hatatoga, which is in Saitama Prefecture, adjacent to Tokyo. The authorities believe that this effort to throw a portion of the city into darkness was designed to facilitate further outrages to-night. This attempt took place at 7 p.m.

A short time previously a hand grenade was hurled into the head offices of the Bank of Japan, in Nihonbashi, Tokyo, by two men in yellow military uniforms. No one was hurt and but slight damage was caused to the bank property.

At 11 p.m., Mr. Takehiko Imai, Councillor to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, was attacked by a soldier in front of the official residence of the Premier. Mr. Imai escaped without injury, however, police coming to his assistance before any harm had been done. The attacker was arrested and at Gendarmerie Headquarters was identified as Sergeant S. Matsutaki of the Japanese Army. —United Press.

May 15.

Following this 18 men, all wearing either naval or military officer's uniforms and claiming to be officers on the active list, voluntarily surrendered to the gendarmes in connection with the five outrages.

Considerable damage was done by the explosion at the Metropolitan Police board but the other bombs caused little damage and no casualties.

Those who attacked the Police Board, which is located in the Sakura Damon which was the scene of the Korean's attempt to bomb the Emperor on January 8 last, fired seven or eight shots towards the building and then threw a hand grenade at it. The explosion wounded one policeman and a newspaperman.

Before rushing away they scattered handbills which read, "Naval and Military Young Officers Association," and contained a bitter denunciation of the existing state of the political parties, the conduct of the nation's diplomacy and of the administration of economic, education, the Navy and the Army.

A preliminary examination of the 18 culprits who surrendered themselves reveals that five of them are naval officers and the other 13 military cadets.

May 16.

Following a final, urgent meeting, the Cabinet tendered its resignation en bloc this morning. After the meeting Mr. Takahashi immediately proceeded to the Imperial Palace.

Temporarily declining to accept the Cabinet's resignation, the Emperor, this morning, ordered Mr. Korekiyo Takahashi to continue as

Acting Premier, pending a consultation among the advisers of the Throne regarding the murdered Premier's successor.

The aged Genro, Prince Saionji has been summoned to Tokyo for the conference.

The Military Council has decided to appoint Lieutenant-General Jinzaburo Masaki, the present Vice-Chief of the General Staff, to succeed General Araki as Minister of War. This decision will hold whether the Cabinet agree to withdraw their resignations or not.

It is reported that General Araki himself narrowly missed assassination last night. A party of six men, well-armed, are said to have visited the Minister's residence shortly after mid-night, and threatened the household. General Araki, however, was absent, having left to attend a conference of the Cabinet.

While yesterday's outrages may be regarded as symptomatic of the prevailing political, social and economic dissatisfaction in Japan, yet it seems reasonably certain that the perpetrators of these outrages lack any backing or sympathy from responsible quarters or even the country at large.

On the contrary, their actions are being strongly denounced everywhere. Although it is true that existing conditions have been increasingly criticised, causing the rapid growth of a Fascist-like movement during the recent months, nevertheless the actual advocates of violence and direct action are believed to be quite small in number.

It is a noteworthy fact also, that apart from the dastardly assassination of Premier Inukai, yesterday's outrages were comparatively trivial, indeed somewhat puerile.

They appear to have been mainly in the nature of demonstrations.

Moreover, reports indicate that peace and quiet continue to prevail all over the country, including Tokyo, where outwardly work and play continue normally.

It is learned that shortly prior to the series of bombings yesterday evening, a man dressed in an officer's uniform shot and seriously injured a man by the name of Nishida, a reservist subaltern. Nishida was recently placed in custody in connection with the "blood brotherhood conspiracy" revealed after the assassination on March 5 of Baron Takuma Dan, a director of the famous firm of Mitsui and one of the leading figures in the industrial world of Japan.

It is significant that the prospective victims of the "blood brotherhood" included Mr. Inukai. Among other intended victims were Prince Saionji, Japan's famous Elder Statesman, who consulted on all matters of national importance Prince Tokugawa, ex-Premier Waka-teki and Baron Shidehara, formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In view of the revelation that Nishida's assailant was a man by the name of Kawasaki, who is also connected with the "blood brotherhood," the police are making a vigorous search for him. They are convinced that the shooting of Nishida will serve to link the bombing outrages yesterday with the "blood brotherhood conspiracy."

Following the bombing outrages the police learned that plans had been made to destroy power stations and water works for the purpose of adding to the confusion. Three electric transmission sub-stations were bombed later in the evening, but there was no serious damage.

A number of other attempts are reported to have been made, but these were apparently half-hearted as the police, forewarned, had ordered precautions to be taken throughout the country and the miscreants evidently feared arrest.

After the bombing outrages, everything was outwardly calm and there was little to indicate anything untoward except the constant jangling of bells and the shrill cries of newshoys. Despite the late hour they ran through the streets selling news-sheets giving accounts of the latest developments.

The police mobilised all their reserves and throughout the night Tokyo was heavily patrolled. The five naval officers who surrendered to the authorities are all sub-lieutenants, while the 13 military cadets who also gave themselves up are stated to be mainly youngsters, who left the Military Academy for unspecified reasons without completing the course.

This appears to indicate that the culprits are hotbeds imbued with distorted ideas of patriotism and loyalty to the Emperor. The handbills which they scattered lay much stress on duty to the Emperor.

The stock and rice exchanges in Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe and Nagoya were suspended this morning owing to the political situation. The cotton exchange at Osaka was also closed. —Reuter.

May 16.

In recognition of Mr. Inukai's services to the Country, the Department of Imperial House-

hold announced that there will be a posthumous bestowal of the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun with the Palownia Flower. —United Press.

May 16.

Although the members of the Seiyukai are hopeful that the famous Elder Statesman, Prince Saionji, will advise the Emperor to command Acting-Premier Takahashi to form a new Seiyukai Cabinet, it is generally believed that either a coalition or super-party Cabinet is likely.

The serious internal dissension in the ranks of the Seiyukai is arousing speculation as to who will

REPORTED NAVAL MUTINY UNFOUNDED

Reports were current in both London and New York yesterday that a mutiny in the Japanese navy had broken out in home waters and both cities have been anxiously querying points in the Far East for confirmation and details.

An inquiry by Reuter to their Tokyo Office elicited the following reply: "Report of naval mutiny appears to be absolutely unfounded."

succeed Mr. Inukai to the presidency of the Party, as it is virtually impossible for the Seiyukai to continue in power if it is split over its presidency.

May 16.

Kawasaki, who yesterday shot Nishida, a reservist subaltern, was arrested this morning. He was discovered hiding as a coolie in a foreman's house.

It is believed that Kawasaki shot Lieutenant Nishida in the belief that Nishida had turned King's evidence against members of the "blood brotherhood." —Reuter.

Nanking, May 16.

Upon learning the news of the attack upon Premier Inukai last night, the Chinese Government sent a message of sympathy to the Japanese. These messages were dispatched, one from the National Government another from Dr. Lo Wen-kan, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and a third from Mr. Wang Ching-wei, the President of the Executive Yuan. —Reuter.

Tokyo, May 18.

The Ministry of War this afternoon issued an official announcement to the effect that 11 of those who participated in the outrages here yesterday were military men, all of them being students of the Military Officers' Academy. It also stated that all 11 are now under arrest and that a thorough investigation is under way.

Lieut.-Gen. Segawa, President of the Military Officers' Academy, whose students participated in the Tokyo outrages, and Lieut.-Gen. Hata, commander of the Gendarmerie, both submitted their resignations at about the same time this morning.

The Bank of Japan and the Mitsubishi Bank, two of the offices into which bombs were thrown, opened their doors this morning as usual. It is understood that the officials of these banks are using their influence in an effort to assure that the next Government should be formed by the Seiyukai Party. —United Press.

Mr. Inukai's Public Career

Premier Tsuyoshi Inukai was born in April, 1855. In 1874 he entered Keio Gijyuku, a forerunner of the present Keio University. He commenced his public career as a secretary of the Bureau of Statistics in 1881, later serving as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Tokyo Prefecture.

In 1890, he became a member of the House of Representatives which was then convened for the first time in Japanese history. He has since been elected to each succeeding House without any interruption, claiming, thereby, the distinction of being one of two or three members who have served throughout these years in that capacity.

In 1898, he was made Minister of Education in the Mineito Cabinet, headed by Marquis (then Count) Okuma. Succeeding later from the Kenseikai of which Count Okuma was the leader, Mr. Inukai organised and became a member of the executive council of the Ken-seihito which later evolved into the Kokuminto, of which he was the leader. (The Chinese pronunciation of Kokuminto is Kuomintang).

It was about this time that Dr. Sun Yat-sen launched his revolutionary programme. Being always the champion of people's rights the Chinese statesman found in this Japanese champion to be a thorough sympathiser and substantial supporter. Because of his intimate personal friendship with Dr. Sun,